FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Bureau of Labor Statistics

OF THE

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

FOR THE YEAR 1887.

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Y. 1

W. N. JONES, Commissioner.

RALEIGH, N. C.:
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ACT ESTABLISHING BUREAU.

The following is the Act establishing the Bureau of Labor Statistics for North Carolina:

CHAPTER 113, LAWS 1887.

SECTION 1. That there shall be established in the Department of Agriculture, Immigration and Statistics, a Bureau of Labor Statistics, which shall be under the charge of a Commissioner of Labor Statistics, who shall be appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Commissioner of Labor Statistics shall hold his office for two years, and until his successor shall be appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed by the Governor for neglect of duty or other legal cause, and shall receive a salary of fifteen hundred dollars a year. The said Commissioner shall collect information upon the subject of labor, its relation to capital, the hours of labor, the earnings of laboring men and women, their educational, moral and financial condition, and the best means of promoting their mental, material, social and moral prosperity. The Commissioner aforesaid shall have power to appoint a chief clerk to assist him in the performance of his duties, which clerk shall receive a salary of nine hundred dollars a year; he may also employ such other assistants as may be deemed by him necessary for the collection and collation of the information hereinbefore referred to and the general administration of his office: *Provided*, that the total expense shall not exceed five thousand dollars for the first two years and two thousand dollars annually thereafter. During the necessary absence of the Commissioner, or if the office shall become vacant, the chief clerk shall perform the duties of the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall annually publish a report in pamphlet form and send or cause to be sent a copy of the same to every newspaper published in this State, a copy to each member of the General Assembly of North Carolina, a copy to each of the several States and county officers of the State, a copy to any person who may apply for the same either personally or by mail, and one hundred copies to each of the several labor organizations which may be in existence at the time of the publication of the reports, in this State. He shall also make a full report to each session of the General Assembly of the information collected and collated by him and containing such recommendations as he may deem calculated to promote the efficiency of the Bureau. The Commissioner is hereby directed to endeavor to obtain an accurate list of all the newspapers published in the State, and whether the same be published daily or weekly, and to forward to each and all a copy of his report promptly upon its being published; he is also directed to diligently inquire after the labor organizations of the State and see that none are omitted in the distribution of the reports: he is further directed to confine his labors to this State. The sum of three thousand dollars for the first year, two thousand dollars for the second year, and two thousand dollars annually there-

after, are hereby appropriated to be paid out of the fund in the State Treasury raised by the tax on fertilizers. The Commissioner, when money is required for the use of his Bureau, shall certify to the Auditor the amount desired, and the Auditor shall thereupon dray his warrant upon the Treasurer for the same. The Commissioner shall disburse all money used by the Bureau.

SEC. 2. The Governor is authorized and directed to nominate, within ten days after the ratification of this act, a proper person as Commissioner, and send his name to the Senate for confirmation. If the Senate shall fail to confirm his nominee, the Governor shall continue to nominate one after another until the Senate shall confirm some one of his nominees.

SEC. 3. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this 28th day of February, A. D. 1887.

By authority of the foregoing act, Governor Scales appointed W. N. Jones Commissioner in March, 1887, who was confirmed by the Senate, and he immediately entered upon the discharge of the duties of his office.

INTRODUCTION.

OFFICE BUREAU LABOR STATISTICS,
RALEIGH, N. C., January 1st, 1888.

HON. ALFRED M. SCALES,
Governor of North Carolina:

Pursuant to the requirements of the Act establishing the Bureau, which is hereto appended, I have the honor to submit this my first annual report of the work done by this office, which embraces a period of ten months from the 1st of March, 1887, to January 1st, 1888.

As will be seen from the Act establishing the Bureau its duty is to "collect information upon the subject of labor, its relation to capital, the hours of labor, the earnings of laboring men and women, and their educational, moral and financial condition," and the best means of promoting the same. To carry out the intention of the Act has been the constant aim of the Commissioner. Of course the work to be done was new not only to the Bureau, but to the people of the State as well, and while there have been many difficulties to be encountered in making this annual report which will not be experienced in the future, yet it will be seen that a great amount of information has been collected which will give much needed intelligence upon the subjects embraced in the Act of the Legislature.

On account of the meagreness of the appropriation made by the Legislature to support the Bureau the mails have been the only available means with which the information which is contained in this report has been gathered. A number of correspondents were obtained in each county, who furnished us with the names of employers and employees, landlords, tenants and others in their respective counties, to whom our blanks were sent with requests for answers. In this way the work has been done. If the means at the disposal of the Bureau had been sufficient to have obtained a personal canvass at certain points in the State, our work would have been very much facilitated. Still, the hearty accord with which the blanks have been answered by those addressed has been very gratifying and the results attained beyond the expectation of the Commissioner.

Every county in the State is represented in the report by numerous replies which have been incorporated in the various chapters of the report. Of course there have been a great many from whom information has been sought, and which was very much desired, who have not answered our inquiries, and whose failure to answer is very much regretted by us; nevertheless, we are glad to make as good showing as we are able to do in the report, and to say that all classes have been consulted, and in the make up of the report will be found every variety of expression in regard to the laboring interests of the State. Hence the report is valuable because it shows facts and opinions in regard to those matters which enter into the every-day life of all the people, and which they think most about.

It may be said that this method of getting at the needs of the people is more and more commending itself in all the States. The work of the Statistician to inform the public mind upon vital subjects is more appreciated to-day than ever before. Bureaus of Statistics have been established in twenty States in the past few years. Ever since the magnificent work accomplished by the census of 1880 there has been a felt want for facts and figures honestly gathered to go upon in regard to every economic question, because it is known that upon these may be reared the superstructure of an intelligent and just public opinion, which makes laws both written and unwritten.

Gen. Walker, the famous Statistician of the United States, says: "The country is hungry for information; everything of a statistical nature, or even of a statistical appearance is taken up with an eagerness that is almost pathetic." Another writer says on the same subject:

"One of the greatest of all the defects of modern law-making, is legislation based on the narrow and incomplete experience of a few persons, which may be, and often is, merely exceptional. Because the laws affect the whole people, therefore the experience of the whole people should be the basis of legislation. Laws based on the experience, or planned to meet the needs of a locality or a class, will almost certainly be found to be antagonistic to some other place or interest. But if all the facts are known, the rules to be declared will be modified, and such exceptions made as justice may require. Legislation, without a proper knowledge of the facts, is simply campaigning in the dark. The shot which the zealous legislator may intend for a foe, may astonish and grieve him by bringing down a friend. He may *guess* that a new rule is needed, or that an old one should be repealed, or that an unsettled question should be determined *pro*, instead of

con. But if he really knows the facts, if he has studied and gathered the results of a wide experience, he can act as a master of the situation, and wisely prepare the remedy that the occasion demands.

The only means by which the results of a wide and varied experience in any department of life can be collected, classified, analyzed and studied, is that which is known by the name of STATISTICS. Hence it follows that the statistical machinery of government should everywhere be increased, and more liberally supported, to the end that all the departments of control may act in the light of knowledge, instead of blundering along in the dark. The machinery of government should be so arranged that what may be described as a census report on any particular subject, could be obtained from all parts of the State or country within a few days; or, in case of emergency, by the use of the telegraph, in a few hours."

The work of the Bureau has evidently been appreciated by a good many of the people of the State, as is shown by the large number of correspondents who have voluntarily furnished us information upon various subjects. The Bureau being the only strictly Southern institution of the kind, its work is also looked to with interest by those outside of the State. A large number of requests have been received from other States and even from foreign countries for copies of this report.

In submitting this report I desire to express to Your Excellency the thanks of the Bureau for the interest you have manifested in the work which it has had in hand. My acknowledgements are also due to the press and to various county officers for many acts of kindness shown to the Bureau in its work. The following newspapers of the State have been regularly sent to this office: *The Messenger*, Wilmington; *State Chronicle*, Raleigh; *New North State*, *The Craftsman*, *Morning News*, Greensboro; *Journal*, Newbern; *Economist*, Elizabeth City; *Citizen*, Asheville; *Intelligencer*, Wadesboro; *Enquirer and Express*, Monroe; *Herald*, Smithfield. I desire especially to thank also the very large number of firms and individuals in the State, the correspondents of the Bureau, for the information which has been furnished by them and which is contained in the following pages.

In organizing the Bureau in March last I appointed Mr. J. M. Broughton, of Raleigh, to the position of Chief Clerk, allowed under the Act establishing the Bureau. It is due to Mr. Broughton to say that in the discharge of his official duties he has filled his position with ability and credit, and my thanks are due to him for the very efficient manner in which he has performed the duties of his office.

W. N. JONES, *Commissioner.*

CHAPTER I.

Employees' Returns.

CHAPTER I.

EMPLOYEES' RETURNS.

The first blank which was sent out by the Bureau, with questions, seeking the information required to be collected by the act establishing the Bureau, was the one addressed to mechanics and laborers in the State other than farm laborers. The information received from that blank is embraced in this chapter—in Tables I and II, and the remarks made under the head of "Views of Workingmen."

A great many of the returns received say, that mechanical occupations are not regularly pursued in the counties from which these returns come. The prices given are those paid whenever mechanics are employed. In these counties mechanical occupations are usually followed in connection with some other calling, generally farming.

Table I shows the average wages paid and hours of labor for the occupations mentioned therein for the different counties in the State. The figures given are made up from a great many returns carefully sought from representative mechanics and others in the various counties of the State. Blanks were sent to every county, and all but three are represented in the Table.

Table II is made up of reports from individual mechanics and laborers, and shows not only the wages received, and hours of labor, but also many interesting facts as to the industrial and social condition of workingmen. A great amount of correspondence has been carried on in order to elicit this information, it being the purpose of the Bureau to make this table as full and accurate as possible. It is believed that the facts contained will be valuable as showing the true condition of the working people of the State. To gain this information very many blanks were sent out, and in most instances prompt answers were received. Some were only partially answered and some were almost unintelligible. The workingmen in North Carolina have not been in the habit of keeping an account of their receipts and expenditures, loss of time, accumulations, &c., and were therefore unable to answer some of the important questions asked

them. Most of the blanks, however, were answered in full. The information received was carefully compiled and tabulated, and is contained in this chapter.

Among the many facts suggested by the reports received, both from the reports themselves and the figures contained in them, is the fact that the work of the school teacher is very much needed in the State. This fact appears from the reports made by mechanics, although they live for the most part in the towns where the best school privileges are afforded. Even among them the number of children attending school is not as great as should be the case, and of course in the country districts the non-attendance is much greater. From the reports received by the Bureau, it appears there is need of livelier interest upon the subject of education. The way to advancement lies first in this direction, because there can be no considerable advancement without intelligence, either social or financial. This fact ought not to be lost sight of by workingmen. Of course in many sections school privileges are represented as very meagre; in some counties schools are reported as not being kept open more than three months in the year. But a healthy public sentiment upon the subject of education would very quickly cause requisite school privileges to be furnished. One of the principal reasons why there are not greater school privileges is, that they are not appreciated as they should be. Progress must, to a large extent, remain fettered among working people, till the school teacher dispels some of the darkness which now pervades the State. Workingmen are most to be benefited by greater school privileges—respectable wages and ignorant minds have never gone together, and never will. This ought to be kept in mind by workingmen. Let them make and utilize every advantage they can for public education, and many blessings which they desire will be vouchsafed with it.

North Carolina is fast becoming a manufacturing State, and new avenues are thereby being opened up for trained minds and skilled hands. The children who are now being reared in the State will have to meet conditions far in advance of those that surrounded their fathers, and unless they have the advantages, at least, of a common school education they cannot meet them successfully. Heretofore it has been possible for a man in this State to be success-

ful in life, and such men were to be found in every community, who were unable to write their names. But in the future it will be impossible for men to succeed under such circumstances. The ignorant will be the hewers of wood and drawers of water, whoever they may be, with hardly a possibility of bettering their condition. Every parent should be alive to this fact and use every endeavor to secure for his offspring the very best education possible, if he would have his memory blessed by them.

If the State does not furnish the necessary school advantages, it is of the highest importance to itself and its individual citizens that it should do so. Intelligent citizens make superior States is a self-evident truth. A State may be ever so great in natural resources, as North Carolina is admitted to be, but unless it has intelligence to appreciate these advantages and to develop them, they will remain unutilized. It ought not to be lost sight of that there is wealth in ideas as well as in material things. A development of the brain force of the State will most surely bring about a corresponding development of its material resources. It will be found to be true, that in those States of the Union where intelligence is generally diffused, that not only wages are higher, but there is to be found the greatest amount of personal property per capita. The New England States prove this fact. The intelligence of the people of those States enable them to appreciate and appropriate the natural advantages that surround them. There are millions of wealth in the brains of the children of the State as well as in the climate, water power, minerals, &c., which make up the natural wealth of the State. And while our people are waking up to the importance and value of the one, the other should be kept in mind.

It is the desire of the Bureau to call the attention of workingmen of North Carolina to the benefits to be derived from public education, that they may be alive to its importance. Let them whenever they can do so advance its interest; by so doing, they will subserve their own best interest and that of the State at large.

At the conclusion of this chapter, under the head of "Views of Workingmen," will be found many suggestions and opinions upon various questions. These remarks show what workingmen of the State think, and should receive careful consideratien. They are compiled under the counties from which they come.

In the returns made to the Bureau a great many mechanics complain in their remarks that they are compelled to labor from 12 to 14 hours per day, and are thereby precluded from any opportunities for recreation and improvement or any social pleasures with their families during work days. This complaint seems to the Bureau, after careful consideration, to be a reasonable one. It is certain that no one who works from 12 to 14 hours in any one day, can, during that day, appreciate any mental or social enjoyment. Therefore the question presents itself, not only to workingmen themselves, but to any unbiased mind, whether there is any necessity to require such service in the shops and factories in the State. While it should be kept in mind that most of the industries in the State are comparatively infantile in their development, and cannot compete in many things with the older industrial communities of the country, we do not believe that it can be maintained in regard to any of the enterprises in the State that they are compelled to force their employees to render them more than ten hours as a day's work. The fact that some of the largest and most successful enterprises in the State do not and have not worked more than ten hours per day is strong proof of this position. These enterprises too have had to withstand the strongest competition, not only at home, but abroad. Ten hours is enough to exhaust the normal capacity of any one to work, and when that amount of labor is honestly performed the rest of effort is merely a waste of time and energy.

Hon. Carroll D. Wright, who is regarded as the leading statistician in this country, and who is now Commissioner of Labor Statistics of the United States, in 1880, being then the Commissioner of Labor Statistics for Massachusetts, in obedience to a resolution of the legislature of that State, collected a great mass of information from manufacturing establishments in the States of Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York, relative to the hours of labor in the factories in these States, and the product of the same. The Commissioner in making his report, and summing up the facts obtained, says: "It is apparent that Massachusetts with ten hours labor produces as much per man, or per spindle, equal grade being considered, as other States with eleven and more hours, and also that the wages rule as high, if not higher, than in the States where the mills run longer time." We believe facts and experience

everywhere will demonstrate the same conclusion. An enterprise that cannot succeed with 10 hours labor will hardly make a success with a greater number.

It may be admitted that in the days of the fathers 12 and 14 hours constituted a day's work, but this is no good reason why these hours should now be continued, rather the reverse; the amazing progress of invention and the consequent production of machinery has not laid that necessity upon men to work that formerly existed. Machinery has made living cheaper and better everywhere, in fact so great have been the strides of invention and consequent production that the grave problem is not one of production but one of consumption and distribution. The world makes or has the ability to make more than enough for the necessities of mankind.

Upon this point Hon. Carroll D. Wright, in his first annual report 1886, says:

"The mechanical industries of the United States are carried on by steam and water-power, representing, in round numbers, 3,500,000 horse-power, each horse-power equaling the muscular labor of six men: that is to say, if men were employed to furnish the power to carry on the industries of this country, it would require 21,000,000 men, and 21,000,000 men represent a population, according to the ratio of the census of 1880, of 105,000,000. The industries are now carried on by 4,000,000 persons, in round numbers representing a population 20,000,000 only. There are in the United States 28,600 locomotives. To do the work of these locomotives upon the existing common roads of the country, and the equivalent of that which has been done upon the railroads the past year, would require, in round numbers, 54,000,000 horses and 13,500,000 men. The work is now done, so far as men are concerned, by 250,000, representing a population of 1,250,000, while the population required for the number of men necessary to do the work with horses would be 67,500,000. To do the work, then, now accomplished by power and power machinery in our mechanical industries and upon our railroads, would require men representing a population of 172,500,000, in addition to the present population of the country of 55,000,000, or a total population, with hand processes and with horse-power, of 227,500,000, which population would be obliged to subsist on present means. In an economic view the cost to the country would be enormous. The present cost of operating the railroads of the country with steam-power is, in round numbers, $502,600,000 per annum; but to carry on the same amount of work with men and horses would cost the country $11,308,500,000."

Taking into consideration such facts as the above, and admitting, for argument's sake, that the ratio of production and distribution of a generation ago was just, the practical question now is, has that

ratio been maintained? The figures which have been gathered upon the subject show that it has not.

The census of 1850 informs us that, at that time, labor received 23.23 of the joint product of labor and capital in the United States. In 1880 it received 17.65 of the joint product of labor and capital. Of course these figures refer to manufacturing industries, and not to labor and capital employed in agricultural pursuits; they also have their application for the most part to the Northern States, where most of the manufacturing has been carried on. The consequence is, that in that section of the country some men have, during a single life-time, amassed enormous fortunes; while others with the desire and ability to work have received from their labor hardly enough to meet the necessities of life. The unrest and dissatisfaction which exist in that part of our country, may be attributed largely to this cause.

Labor and capital are the joint producers. In the solution of the question of distribution, which must be determined by wages and hours of work, labor ought not to desire a lion's share—neither should capital; and for either to take the lion's share would be confessedly wrong. To require more than ten hours as a day's work, cannot be justified from past analogies or present conditions. There is no competition which would indicate such a necessity. Therefore the complaints that have been made ought to receive the careful consideration of every unbiased mind.

A great many of the States in the Union have what is known as a ten hour law for their factories and mechanical industries. They have been sustained by public opinion wherever adopted. Among the many statutes passed in the different States the following, from the State of Ohio, seems to be an embodiment in short form of what is contained in the ten hour law of other States:

"In all engagements to labor in any mechanical, manufacturing or mining business, a day's work, when the contract is silent on the subject, or where there is no express contract, shall consist of ten hours; and all agreements, contracts or engagements, in reference to such labor, shall be so construed."

It will be seen that the law does not apply to farm work, and in no State is there to be found any law which undertakes to regulate such work, and with reason. The hours of farm labor cannot be

regulated by any system, the seasons must govern it. No regular work can be done on rainy days and there is a great part of the year when little or no farm work is done at all. Perhaps no farm hand in our State works on an average more than ten hours a day during the period of his employment. The law as quoted above applies to "Mechanical, Manufacturing and Mining business." With respect to such industries the statute defines what a day's work is. It is not compulsory, and from the nature of the case, ought not to be, but its terms define and embody what is considered to be just and right upon the subject.

Attention is therefore respectfully called to the consideration of this question of hours of labor. What is right in reference to it? Is it right or necessary to compel more than ten hours' labor in the factories and workshops in the State? Upon a careful and unbiased consideration, we do not believe it will be found to be so.

Another matter which should receive the consideration of those interested, and to which attention is called by some of the correspondents of the Bureau, is the system which prevails with some employers in the State, of requiring their employees to trade at certain stores—a system which is known in other parts of the country as the "truck system." Wherever it has been used it has been uniformly condemned—causing more or less dissatisfaction and trouble. The system is usually carried out by issuing to the employees "trade checks," with which purchases can be made at the "Company Store," and nowhere else. If these checks are received by other stores or parties, it is generally at a discount. By such a course, employees are not allowed the benefits of competition in trade, which is always beneficial to the trader. Compulsion in this matter is unjust, because the employer insists upon making two profits upon the employee's work—one on the product of his labor, the other on the consumption of his labor. Such a course savors too much of greed, and even if carried on justly, would create distrust.

In the State of Pennsylvania, it is known as the "Pluck Me" system. A very suggestive name. Stores conducted upon this plan usually allow an employee to trade as long as there is any sum to his credit upon the company's books. Under such a system, few workingmen would ever learn that frugality which is essential to thrift. Because not keeping their own accounts, they fail to see where

their wages go. They find it an easy matter to send to the store for what is supposed to be needed, and soon their entire installment of wages is gone before the next pay day, and the wonder is where it went. The consequence is dissatisfaction and hard feeling between employee and employer. The worker soon becomes discouraged, and sometimes wreckless, in consequence, failing to perform his labor with that faithfulness and cheerfulness which he would do if properly paid.

This "truck system" is akin to the "lien bond" system, so much condemned by the farming class, and which has been such a blight to the farming interest wherever practiced. Happily, the "truck system" is not very extensively practiced in North Carolina, though in connection with some enterprises in the State it is carried on. It is to be hoped that it will never be followed by the shops and factories in the State. It would even be better to pay less and allow workingmen to have their earnings, whatever they are, to do as they please with, rather than compel them to trade at any particular place. There can be no valid objection to any employer carrying on a store if he so desires, but to compel his employees to trade there, cannot be justified, whether the demand is made outwardly or covertly. In fact, the covert demand is worse than the open demand, because it tacitly admits the injustice of the proceeding. Frequently it happens, that while there is no open demand or requirement that employees shall trade at a certain place, still employees are given to understand, or soon learn, that only those who trade at the "company store" will be continued in employment. This is a very effective way of enforcing obedience on this point, and is often resorted to, though not openly.

It would seem that the complaints made by workingmen upon this subject are just, and commend themselves to every one's better judgment. Attention of those interested is called to this subject, and to many other subjects embraced in the remarks in this chapter.

TABLE No. 1.—SHOWING MECHANICAL OCCUPATIONS FOLLOWED, WITH RATE OF WAGES PER DAY AND NUMBER HOURS CONSTITUTING A DAY'S WORK IN EACH OF THE COUNTIES IN NORTH CAROLINA.

In stating wages paid in any particular line, we give the average rate in the county.

COUNTIES.	Blacksmiths.	Carpenters.	Brick Masons.	Stone Masons.	Plasterers.	Painters.	Printers.	Machinists.	Moulders.	Millwrights.	Millers.	Tinners.	Wagon Makers.	Sawyers.	Laborers.	Hours of Work.
Alamance	$ 1 25	$ 1 25	$ 1 50	$ 1 25	$ 1 50	$ 1 50	$ ----	$ 2 25	$ 1 50	$ 2 50	⅓ toll	$ ----	$ 1 25	$ ----	50	10 to 12
Alexander*	1 25	1 25	1 25	1 25	1 25	1 25	------	1 50	1 50	------	$ 1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	40	10 to 12
Alleghany*	1 00	1 50	1 50	1 00	2 00	1 00	------	------	------	1 50	------	------	1 00	------	50	10 to 12
Anson	1 25	1 25	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	2 00	------	2 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	75	75	10 to 12
Ashe	1 00	1 25	1 75	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 00	1 75	1 50	2 00	⅓ toll	1 25	1 50	1 00	60	10 to 12
Beaufort	1 50	1 50	1 75	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50	2 50	------	2 00	⅓ toll	------	1 50	1 00	75	10 to 12
Bertie*	1 50	1 50	1 25	1 50	------	1 50	1 00	1 50	------	2 00	1 00	------	1 50	1 25	75	11 to 12
Bladen	1 25	1 25	1 25	1 25	1 50	1 25	1 00	1 50	------	1 50	75	------	1 75	1 00	75	11 to 12
Brunswick*	1 50	1 50	2 00	------	2 00	1 50	------	------	------	2 50	1 25	------	2 00	1 25	------	10
Buncombe	2 00	2 00	3 00	2 50	2 50	1 75	1 50	2 50	2 50	2 00	1 00	2 25	2 00	2 00	90	10
Burke	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	------	2 00	------	1 50	⅓ toll	2 00	2 00	1 25	75	10
Cabarrus	1 50	1 50	1 75	2 00	2 00	1 50	------	------	------	3 00	------	------	------	------	------	10 to 12
Caldwell*	1 00	1 00	1 50	1 50	1 25	------	------	------	------	1 25	------	------	1 00	75	50	11 to 12
Camden	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	------	------	------	------	1 00	------	2 00	1 25	------	10 to 12
Carteret	1 25	1 50	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	------	1 50	------	1 50	⅓ toll	------	2 00	1 50	75	10
Caswell	1 00	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 00	------	------	------	2 00	1 00	1 00	1 50	1 00	80	12
Catawba	1 25	1 25	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	------	2 00	------	2 00	⅓ toll	1 25	1 50	1 00	75	10
Chatham	1 00	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25	2 00	1 50	2 00	1 00	1 50	1 25	1 00	60	10 to 12
Cherokee*	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 00	2 00	------	2 00	1 00	------	1 50	1 00	75	10 to 11
Chowan	1 25	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 35	2 00	------	2 00	1 00	1 50	1 50	1 25	75	10 to 12
Clay†	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------
Cleveland	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25	1 50	1 25	2 00	------	2 00	⅓ toll	------	1 25	1 00	75	10 to 12
Columbus	1 00	1 50	1 50	------	1 50	1 50	1 00	2 00	------	2 00	⅓ toll	------	2 00	1 50	75	11 to 12
Craven	------	1 75	------	------	------	------	------	2 50	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	10

TABLE No. 1.—CONTINUED.

COUNTIES.	Blacksmiths.	Carpenters.	Brick Masons.	Stone Masons.	Plasterers.	Painters.	Printers.	Machinists.	Moulders.	Millwrights.	Millers.	Tinners.	Wagon Makers.	Sawyers.	Laborers.	Hours of Work.
Cumberland	$ 1 50	$ 1 50	$ 2 00	$ 2 00	$ 1 50	$ 1 25	$ 1 50	$ 2 50	.....	$ 2 50	$ 1 00	$ ...	$	$ 1 50	75	10
Currituck	1 50	1 25	2 00	.....	2 00	1 50	.....	2 50	.....	.....	1 25	.....	1 50	1 25	75	.....
Dare	1 50	1 25	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	.....	2 00	.....	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Davidson	1 25	1 00	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	2 00	1 50	2 50	1 00	1 50	1 25	1 25	50	10 to 12
Davie	1 00	1 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50	1 00	2 00	1 00	2 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	75	50	10 to 12
Durham	2 00	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	10
Duplin	1 50	1 00	1 50	1 50	1 00	.....	.....	2 00	.....	2 00	75	.....	1 00	1 00	50	10 to 12
Edgecombe	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 20	2 25	2 00	.....	.....	2 00	1 50	.....	75	10 to 11
Forsyth	1 00	1 50	2 00	1 25	2 00	1 00	2 00	2 00	1 00	1 50	1 00	1 50	1 00	1 00	.....	10
Franklin	1 25	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25	1 20	2 00	.....	.....	.....	1 00	1 25	75	60	10 to 12
Gaston	1 25	1 25	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	50	10 to 12
Gates†	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Graham	1 50	1 25	2 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	.....	.....	.....	1 50	75	.....	1 50	75	50	10 to 12
Granville	.....	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 to 12
Greene†	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Guilford	1 25	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	.....	1 00	1 25	1 25	1 00	75	10
Halifax	1 00	1 20	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25	1 50	2 00	.....	2 00	1 00	1 50	1 25	1 50	60	10 to 12
Harnett	1 00	1 00	1 50	1 25	1 25	1 00	.....	2 00	.....	2 00	75	.....	1 00	1 00	50	11 to 12
Haywood	1 25	1 50	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50	.....	2 00	1 00	2 00	75	1 25	1 00	1 00	75	11 to 12
Henderson	1 25	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 00	.....	2 00	2 00	1 25	1 00	.....	1 25	1 00	50	10 to 12
Hertford	1 00	1 25	2 00	.....	1 50	1 00	.....	2 50	.....	1 50	.....	2 00	1 50	1 50	75	10 to 12
Hyde	.....	1 50	2 00	.....	1 75	1 50	.....	.....	.....	2 00	75	.....	2 00	1 00	75	10 to 12
Iredell	1 00	1 20	.....	.....	1 00	1 00	.....	1 50	1 50	.....	½ toll	.....	.....	.....	75	60 10 to 12
Jackson	1 25	1 25	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	.....	2 00	1 00	2 00	1 00	.....	1 00	1 00	75	11 to 12
Johnston	1 00	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 00	1 50	1 50	2 00	.....	2 00	1 00	.....	1 00	1 00	60	10
Jones	1 25	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25	.....	1 50	.....	2 00	1 00	.....	1 50	1 00	50	10 to 12
Lenoir	1 00	1 25	2 00	.....	2 00	1 50	1 00	2 00	.....	2 00	75	1 00	1 50	1 00	75	10 to 12
Lincoln	1 00	1 25	1 50	2 00	1 25	1 25	.....	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 00	.....	1 00	.....	75	11 to 12

McDowell	1 00	1 25	1 50		1 50	1 00	1 25			2 00	$\frac{1}{3}$ toll		1 50	1 00	50	10 to 12
Macon	1 00	1 25	1 50	1 50		1 25		1 50		2 00	1 00					10 to 12
Madison*	1 25	1 50	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50		2 00		2 00	$\frac{1}{3}$ toll		1 50	1 00	75	11 to 12
Martin	1 25	1 25	2 00		2 00	1 50	1 00			2 00	1 00		1 50	1 25	50	11 to 12
Mecklenburg	1 00	1 50	2 00	1 75	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 75		2 50	1 00		1 50	1 00	75	10
Mitchell	1 00	1 25	1 25	1 25	1 25	1 25	75	2 00	1 25	1 50	1 00		1 25	1 25	75	10 to 11
Montgomery	1 00	1 25	1 50	1 00	1 00	1 50	75	2 50		2 00	$\frac{1}{3}$ toll		1 00	1 00	60	11 to 12
Moore	1 50	1 25	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 75	1 00	2 00	1 50	2 00	1 75	1 50	1 50	1 50	60	10 to 12
Nash	1 00	1 00	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00			1 50	1 00	60	10 to 12
New Hanover	1 50	1 50	2 50	2 50	1 50	1 50		2 50	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	1 50	2 00	75	10
Northampton	1 25	1 25	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50		2 50	1 50	1 50	1 00		1 50	1 25		10 to 12
Onslow	1 00	1 25	2 00		2 00	1 50								1 00		10 to 12
Orange	1 25	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25		2 00	1 50	2 00	1 00	75	1 00	1 00	50	10
Pamlico*	1 00	1 25	2 00		2 00	1 50		3 00		2 50	1 00		2 00	1 00	75	10 to 12
Pasquotank	1 50	1 25	2 00		2 00	2 00		3 00			1 00	1 50	1 50	1 00	75	10 to 12
Pender	1 50	1 25	1 50		1 50	1 25		2 00					1 50			10 to 12
Perquimans	1 00	1 25	1 50		2 00	1 25			1 00	1 50	50		1 00	75		
Person*	1 25	1 25	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	2 00		2 00	1 00	1 25	1 50		75	10 to 12
Pitt	1 00	1 25	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 25	3 00		2 00	1 00			1 50	75	11 to 12
Polk*	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 50	1 25	1 50		2 50		2 00	1 00		1 25	1 50	75	11 to 12
Randolph	1 25	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 00	1 50	1 00	2 00		2 00	$\frac{1}{3}$ toll		1 50	1 00	75	10 to 12
Richmond	1 25	1 25	2 00		2 00	2 00		2 50		2 00	$\frac{1}{3}$ toll		1 50	1 25		10 to 12
Robeson	1 25	1 25	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 25	1 25	2 00		2 00	$\frac{1}{3}$ toll	1 50	1 25	1 00	60	10 to 12
Rockingham	1 00	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25	2 00		1 50	1 00	1 25	1 50	1 00	75	11 to 12
Rowan	1 50	1 50	2 00	1 50	2 00	1 25	1 25	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50	1 25	1 50	1 00	75	10
Rutherford	1 00	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25	1 50		2 00	1 00	1 50	1 25	1 00	75	10 to 12
Sampson	1 50	1 25	1 50	1 25	1 25	1 25	1 25	2 00		2 00	1 00		1 50	1 00	60	10 to 12
Stanly	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50		2 00		2 50	1 00		2 00	1 00	60	10 to 12
Stokes	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 50		1 50		1 50	75	1 00	1 50	75	75	10 to 12
Surry	1 00	1 00	2 00	2 25	1 25	1 00		2 50		1 50	75	1 50	75	75	75	12
Swain	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50		1 50		2 00	1 00		1 00	1 25	75	11 to 12
Transylvania	1 00	1 25			1 50	1 50				1 50				1 25		11 to 12
Tyrrell	1 25	1 25	1 50		1 25	1 25		2 00		2 00	1 25			1 50	75	11 to 12
Union	1 25	1 25	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50		2 50	2 00	2 00	1 00		1 00	1 00	60	11 to 12
Warren	1 25	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25	1 25	2 00	1 25	1 50	50		1 50	1 00		10 to 12
Wake	1 50	1 50	2 25	2 25	2 00	1 50	2 33	2 25	1 75	2 00	1 00	1 50	1 50		75	10
Washington*		1 50						2 00								10 to 12
Watauga	1 25	1 25	2 00	2 00	1 50	1 50		2 00		3 00	1 00		1 50	1 00	50	10 to 12
Wayne	1 00	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 00		2 00	1 50	2 00	1 00		2 00	1 00	75	10

TABLE No. 1.—CONTINUED.

COUNTIES.	Blacksmiths.	Carpenters.	Brick Masons.	Stone Masons.	Plasterers.	Painters.	Printers.	Machinists.	Moulders.	Millwrights.	Millers.	Tinners.	Wagon Makers.	Sawyers.	Laborers.	Hours of Work.
Wilkes*	$ 1 25	$ 1 25	$ 2 00	$ 2 00	$ 1 50	$ 1 25	$ ...	$ 2 00	$ ...	$ 2 00	$ 1 50	$ 1 00	$ 1 00	$ 1 00	50	10 to 12
Wilson	1 25	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 25	1 25	2 50	2 00	2 50	1 00	1 50	1 50	1 00	60	10 to 11
Yadkin*	1 25	1 25	1 50	1 50	1 50	1 25	.....	2 00	.....	1 50	1 00	.....	1 50	1 00	60	10 to 12
Yancey†	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Vance	1 50	1 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	.....	2 00	1 50	2 50	1 00	1 25	1 50	.....	75	10 to 11

*In the counties thus marked mechanical occupations are only followed in connection with other business.
†No report from counties marked thus.

TABLE No. 2—SHOWING OCCUPATION, HOURS OF WORK, EARNINGS PER DAY, REPORTING TO

COUNTIES.	OCCUPATION.	Hours per day.	EARNINGS.			LOST TIME IN DAYS.		Cost of living per year without rent.	Living in own h'se	Rent paid per year.
			Per Day.	Per Week.	Per Month.	Inability to obtain wo'k	Other Causes.			
Alamance.										
	Carpenter	10	$1 25	$ 7 50	$30 00	....	20	$250 00	yes	$ ....
	Blacksmith	11	1 25	6 00	26 00	....	25	225 00	yes	.....
	Sawyer	11	1 25	7 00	20 00	60	20	200 00	no	36 00
	Painter	10	1 50	9 00	.....	100	10	275 00	yes	.....
Alexander.										
	*Carpenter	11	1 25	7 00	26 00	100	25	180 00	yes	.....
	*Blacksmith	11	1 00	6 00	20 00	60	20	175 00	yes	.....
Alleghany.										
	*Blacksmith	12	1 00	6 00	20 00	60	30	165 00	no	36 00
Anson.										
	Carpenter	11	1 25	.....	.....	100	10	250 00	yes	.....
	Laborer	12	75	.....	.....	60	20	150 00	yes	.....
	Blacksmith	12	1 25	.....	.....	25	....	450 00	yes	.....
	Laborer, Saw Mill	12	50	.....	.....	60	....	175 00	....	.....
Ashe.										
	Carpenter	10	1 00	6 00	26 00	....	....	200 00	yes	.....
Beaufort.										
	Sawyer	10	1 25	7 50	30 00	....	15	250 00	yes	.....
	Laborer	12	50	3 00	.....	....	....	125 00	yes	.....
	Laborer, Timber	12	1 00	.....	.....	....	45	200 00	no	24 00
	Saw Filer	12	1 75	.....	.....	....	60	450 00	no	free
Bertie.										
	Carpenter	12	1 50	9 00	.....	175	....	350 00	yes	.....
	Coach Maker	10	1 14	7 00	.....	....	20	200 00	yes	.....
	*Painter	10	1 50	.....	.....	60	20	250 00	no	60 00
Bladen.										
	Carpenter	10	1 25	.....	.....	30	60	250 00	no	60 00
	Turp'ntine Worker	12	50	3 00	....	12	....	130 00	no	20 00
	Blacksmith	12	1 25	6 00	20 00	60	30	150 00	no	30 00
Brunswick.										
	Carpenter	10	1 50	9 00	.....	100	....	250 00	....	54 00
	Pilot	12	1 75	.....	.....	....	....	225 00	....	.....
Buncombe.										
	Carpenter	10	2 75	.....	.....	....	18	278 00	yes	.....
	Carpenter	10	1 50	.....	.....	....	....	.....	....	.....
	Carpenter	10	2 25	.....	.....	....	....	300 00	no	72 00
	Carpenter	10	2 00	.....	.....	100	....	365 00	yes	.....
	Carpenter	10	2 25	.....	.....	36	....	450 00	yes	.....
	Bricklayer	10	3 00	.....	.....	100	....	.....	no	150 00
	Tinner	10	2 25	.....	.....	....	....	500 00	yes	.....
	Shoemaker	12	2 00	12 00	.....	....	....	500 00	no	72 00
	Carpent'r, Forem'n	10	3 00	.....	.....	....	10	350 00	yes	.....
	Painter	10	1 75	.....	.....	60	20	400 00	....	84 00
	Machinist	10	2 50	.....	.....	40	20	500 00	....	100 00
	Printer	10	1 50	.....	.....	....	....	.....	....	.....
Burke.										
	Blacksmith	10	1 25	.....	.....	....	200	150 00	yes	.....
	Carpenter	10	1 50	.....	.....	60	....	275 00	yes	.....

COST OF LIVING AND GENERAL CONDITION OF MECHANICS AND LABORERS. THIS BUREAU.

No. in family.	Work'g for wages.	Child'n att'g school	Paid by day, week or month	Per cent. of wages paid in cash.	Per cent. in merchandise.	Do you trade where you choose?	Are you requ'd to tr. at certain pl'ce?	Do you live better than 3 years ago?	Any insurance?	Per cent. increase in wages past year.	Decrease—per ct.	Has cost of living increased?	Decreased?	Any accumulation last year?
6	1	2	week	50	50	yes		yes	no	no	10		10	yes
4	1	1	week	100		yes		same	no	no	no	same		yes
4	1		week	50	50	yes		no	no	no	no	same		no
5	1	1	week	100		yes		same	yes	no	no	no		no
5	1	1	mo'th	50	50	yes		no	no	no	no	same		no
6	1	1	week	50	50	yes		yes	no	no	no	same		no
2	1		week	75	25	yes		no	no	no	no	same		no
4	1	1	mo'th	50	50	yes		no	no	no	25	no	no	no
9	1	1	mo'th	50	50	yes		no	no			no	no	no
10	2	4	week			yes		no	no			yes	no	no
4	2		week	100		yes		no	no	no	no	yes		no
2	1		mo'th	50	50	yes		no	no			10		little
7	1	2	mo'th	100		yes		yes	no			slight		some
8	1	4	week		100	no	yes	no	yes					no
5	1	1	mo'th	50	50	yes	no	no	no					no
7	1		week	100		yes		yes	no	15		some		no
5	2	2	day	25	75	no								no
3	1		week	100		yes		yes	no	no				yes
5	1	1	week	50	50	yes		yes	no					no
7	1	2	day	100		no	yes	no	no					debt
7	2	1	mo'th		100	no	yes	no	no					debt
6	1	2	mo'th		100	no	yes	no	no					
2	1		week	50	50	no	yes	no	no		30			
	1		day			yes								
2	1		week	100		yes	no	no	no	25				no
			week	100		yes		yes	no	10		no	no	no
4	2			100		yes		yes	no	no				
6		2	week	100		yes		no	no	10		yes		no
6			week	100		yes		no	no	10		yes		yes
5	1	2	mo'th	100		yes		no	no					no
5	1	1		100		yes								yes
3	1	1	week	100		yes		no						
6	1	1	week	100		yes		no		15				yes
5	1		week	100		yes								
4	1		week	100		yes		no						
10	1	4	mo'th	50	50	yes		no				15		no
5	1	1	week	50	50	yes		no						yes

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	OCCUPATION.	Hours per day.	EARNINGS.			LOST TIME IN DAYS.		Cost of living per year without rent.	Living in own h'se.	Rent paid per year.
			Per Day.	Per Week.	Per Month.	Inability to obtain wo'k	Other causes.			
Cabarrus.										
	Blacksmith	10	2 00	$10 00	$26 00		65	$150 00	yes	$
	Carpenter	10	1 50			40	30	285 00	no	84 00
Caldwell.										
	Carpenter	11	1 00			60		200 00		
	Blacksmith	12	1 00			30		180 00		
Camden.										
	Blacksmith	12	1 50	7 50		90		200 00		72 00
Carteret.										
	Sawyer	12	1 25			60		175 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 50			50	20	300 00	yes	
Caswell.										
	Blacksmith	12	1 00			30		180 00	no	30 00
	Carpenter	11	1 25			70		200 00	no	72 00
	Painter	11	1 00			100		175 00	yes	
Catawba.										
	Blacksmith	10	1 25			30	20	180 00	yes	
	Wagon Maker	10	1 50					300 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 25			60		225 00	no	84 00
	Laborer	10	75			30		175 00	no	36 00
Chatham.										
	Section Master			7 00				180 00	no	free
	Machinist	10	1 00					250 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 25					225 00	no	84 00
Cherokee.										
	Carpenter	10	1 50	9 00			10	150 00		board
Chowan.										
	Carriage Maker	10	1 50				20	200 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 50			30	10	250 00	no	75 00
	Blacksmith	11	1 25				20	200 00	no	48 00
Clay.										
Cleveland.										
	Carpenter	12	1 50					200 00	yes	
	Painter	11	2 00			100		350 00	yes	
	Blacksmith	12	1 25				30	200 00	no	60 00
Columbus.										
	Cooper	11		5 00	20 00			175 00	no	24 00
	Sawyer	10	1 50					180 00	yes	
	Turpentine Distil'r	10	1 25					180 00	yes	
Craven.										
	Carpenter	10	1 75	10 50			12	450 00		72 00
	Boiler Maker	8			30 00					72 00
Cumberland.										
	Carpenter	10	1 50			60	20	250 00	no	100 00
Currituck.										
	Carpenter	11	1 25			40	30	200 00	no	48 00
	Blacksmith	11	1 25				30	180 00	yes	
Dare.										
	Carpenter	11	1 25			90	30	150 00	yes	

2—CONTINUED.

No. in family.	Work'g for wages.	Child'n att'g school	Paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. of wages paid in cash.	Per cent. in merchandise.	Do you trade where you choose?	Are you requ'ed to tr. at certain place?	Do you live better than 3 years ago?	Any insurance?	Per cent. increase in wages past year.	Decrease—per ct.	Has cost of living increased?	Decreased?	Any accumulation last year?
7	3	2	mo'th	100		yes		no	yes					yes
4		1	week			yes		no						no
5		1	week			yes		no						no
4			mo'th			no		no						no
6	2	1	week			yes		no						no
5	1	1	mo'th	50	50	yes		no						no
6	1	2	mo'th	100		yes		no						no
4	1		day	100		yes		no						no
5	1	1	week	100		yes		no						no
3	1	1	job	100		no		no						no
4	1	1	week	100		yes		no						no
7	1	2	week	100		yes		yes						no
5	1	1	week			yes		no						yes
3	1		week			yes		no						no
7	1	3	mo'th	100		yes		yes	yes			5		
5	1	1	mo'th	100										no
5	1	2	job	100		yes		no	no					no
1	1		job	100				yes	no	no				
4	1	1	week	100		yes		yes						yes
6	1	2	job	100		no		no						no
4	1		day	50	50	no		no						no
2	1		job	50	50	yes								yes
10	1	3	week	50	50	no		no						same
4	1	1	week	100		yes		no						no
8	1	4	week	100		yes		yes				no	no	yes
6	1	2	week	50	50	no						no	no	no
4	1		week			yes								no
2	1		mo'th	100		yes		no	yes	no	no	no		no
3			job					no						no
6	1	1	week	100		yes		no						no
4	1	1	job	50	50	yes		no						no
7	1	2	day	100		yes		yes						yes
6	2		job											

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	OCCUPATION.	Hours per day.	EARNINGS.			LOST TIME IN DAYS.		Cost of living per year without rent.	Living in own h'se	Rent paid per year.
			Per Day.	Per Week.	Per Month.	Inability to obtain w'k	Other Causes.			
Davidson.										
	Blacksmith	10	$1 00	$ 5 00		60	2	$200 00	yes	
	Machinist	10	1 50					350 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 25			90	20	250 00	no	$48 00
Durham.										
	Carpenter	10	1 50						no	100 00
	Laborer	10	75					180 00	no	72 00
	Bricklayer	10	2 50	15 00		90	3		no	72 00
	Bookkeeper	10			100 00			400 00	yes	free
	Miller	10	50			60	30	150 00	no	
	Printer	10	1 50	9 00			20	400 00	no	100 00
Davie.										
	Cabinet Maker	10	1 00						no	18 00
	Blacksmith	11	1 00			45	20	175 00	no	48 00
	Carpenter	11	1 00							
Duplin.										
	Blacksmith	12	1 25					200 00	yes	
	Carpenter	11	1 00					250 00	no	36 00
Edgecombe.										
	Wagon Maker	10	1 66			60		225 00	yes	
	Moulder	10	1 00			30			no	
	Harness Maker	10	1 00					200 00	no	
Forsyth.										
	Carpenter	11	1 25						yes	
	Wagon Maker	11	1 50						yes	
	Blacksmith	12								
Franklin.										
	Carpenter	10	2 00			140	40	250 00	yes	
	Painter	10	2 00			40	20	250 00	no	
	Blacksmith	11	75			42	30	200 00	no	65 00
	Stone Mason	12	1 00			75	25	175 00	no	15 00
	Painter	10	1 50			60		300 00	yes	
Gaston.										
	R. R. Agent	12	37½		10 00					
	Brick Mason	11	2 50	15 00		100		175 00	yes	
	Painter	10	1 50	9 00		160			yes	
	Carpenter	12	1 50	9 00		10	60	300 00	yes	
Gates.										
	Carpenter	11	1 25				40	225 00	no	60 00
	Sawyer	11	1 50				60	250 00	yes	
	Wagon Maker	10	1 50					275 00	yes	
	Laborer	12	60					150 00	no	
Graham.										
	Blacksmith	12	1 00				25	175 00	yes	
	Carpenter	12	1 25			30		150 00	yes	
Granville.										
	Carpenter	12	1 50				175	175 00	no	36 00

2.—CONTINUED.

No. in family.	Work'g for wages.	Child'n att'g school	Paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. of wages paid in cash.	Per cent. in merchandise.	Do you trade where you choose?	Are you req'ed to tr. at certain place?	Do you live better than 3 years ago?	Any insurance?	Per cent. increase in wages past year	Decrease—per ct.	Has cost of living increased?	Decreased?	Any accumulation last year?
8	2	3	week	100		yes		no	no		15 per ct			
4	1	1	week	100		yes		no						
5	1	1	week	100		yes		no						no
			week	100										
			s'm-m	100										
2	1		s'm-m	100		yes		no	yes			no		no
2	1		week	100		yes		yes	yes					yes
2	1			100		yes	no	no	no		10 per ct	20 per ct		no
5	1	2	week	100		yes	no	no	no			15 per ct		no
4	1	2	week	100		yes		no	no			no	no	no
4	1	1	week	25	75	yes		yes	no					
3	1		week	100				no	no					yes
6	1	2	job	50	50	yes		no	no					yes
5			week			yes								no
			week			yes								no
			week											no
			week											
			week											
4			week	25	75	yes			no					
6			job	50	50	yes			yes					
5	1	2	mo'th	50	50			no						debt
6	1	2	week	100		no	yes	no	no		25 per ct	yes		debt
4	1	1	job	100		yes		no	no			yes		no
7	3	3	mo'th	100		yes		no	fire		10 per ct			yes
3	1		week	100		yes.		yes	yes					yes
4	1	1	week			yes		no	no					
8	1	1	mo'th	100		yes		no	no			yes		no
6	1	1	job	50	50	yes		no	no					
4	1		week											
5	1	1	week	100		yes		yes	no					
4	1		week											no
6	1	1	week			no								no
2	1		job			no								no
5	1	2	job	25	75	no	yes	no	no		15 per ct			no

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	OCCUPATION.	Hours per day.	EARNINGS.			LOST TIME IN DAYS.		Cost of living per year without rent.	Living in own h'se.	Rent paid per year.
			Per Day.	Per Week.	Per Month.	Inability to obtain w'k	Other causes.			
Guilford.										
	Carpenter	10	1 00	6 00				150 00	no	$36 00
	Carpenter	10	1 50					200 00	yes	
	Miner	10	1 25	7 50		60		300 00	yes	
	Woolen Mill work'r	12	50	3 00		20	27	80 00	no	
	Blacksmith	12	1 25					300 00		
Halifax.										
	Wheelwright	10	50	3 00	15 00	23				40 00
	Carpenter	10	1 00					200 00	yes	
	Blacksmith	10	1 00					175 00	no	36 00
Harnett.										
	Carpenter	11	1 00					150 00	no	40 00
Haywood.										
	Carpenter	11	1 75			30	30	300 00	no	48 00
	Carpenter	11	1 25			60	30	150 00	no	free
	Sawyer	10	2 50					350 00	no	
Henderson.										
	Carpenter	10	1 25					250 00	no	60 00
	Blacksmith	10	1 25					200 00	yes	
	Cabinet Maker	10	1 50					275 00	yes	
Hertford.										
	Carpenter	12	1 25			30	10	200 00	no	36 00
	Blacksmith	12	1 00			40	20	150 00	no	30 00
Hyde.										
	Carpenter	12	1 50			100		200 00	yes	
	Sawyer	10	1 25			50		280 00	yes	
Iredell.										
	Carpenter	10	2 00					300 00	no	75 00
	Machinist	10	2 25			30		350 00	yes	
Jackson.										
	Carpenter	11	2 00			70	20	400 00	yes	
	Carpenter	11	1 25			60	40	225 00	yes	
Johnston.										
	Sawyer	10	1 00			60		185 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 25			60	10	225 00	no	30 00
Jones.										
	Wagon Maker	12	1 00					200 00	no	40 00
	Sawyer	10	1 25			40	30	200 00	yes	
	Machinist	10	1 50	9 00		30		175 00	yes	
Lenoir.										
	Blacksmith	11	1 00			25	30	200 00	no	24 00
	Carpenter	11	1 25			60		225 00	no	48 00
Lincoln.										
	Paper Maker	12	1 00		26 00			175 00	yes	
	Paper Maker	12	1 25				10	180 00	no	free
	Carpenter	11	1 25			30	60	200 00	yes	
	Machinist	10	2 00			40		300 00	no	60 00
McDowell.										
	Miner	10	1 50					250 00	no	free
	Carpenter		1 25			60		225 00	yes	
	Blacksmith		1 00					180 00	no	30 00

2.—CONTINUED.

No. in family.	Work'g for wages.	Child'n att'g school	Paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. of wages paid in cash.	Per cent. in merchandise.	Do you trade where you choose?	Are you requ'ed to tr. at certain place?	Do you live better than 3 years ago?	Any insurance?	Per cent. increase in wages past year.	Decrease.	Has cost of living increased?	Decreased?	Any accumulation last year?
3	1		job	50	50	yes	no	no	no			yes		debt
3	1		s'm-m	100		yes	no	yes	yes					
6			mo'th	100		yes		no	no		yes	no		
1			week			yes		no	no					
4			week											
5	2		week	c'sh		yes		no	no	no	no	yes		debt
6	1	1	job	100		yes		yes	no					
4	1		week	100		no		no	no					no
5	1	1	job	50	50	yes		no	no					no
4	1	1	week	25	75	no	yes	no	no	no	no			yes
6	1	1	week	c'sh										
			week											yes
7	1	2	week	100		yes		no	no					no
6	1	3	week	100		yes		yes	no					no
4	1	2	job	100		yes		yes	no					yes
5	1	2	week	25	75			no	no					no
4	1	1	week	100		yes		no	no	no	no			
6	1		week	100		yes		yes	no	no	no	no	no	yes
6	1	2	week	100		yes		same	life	no	no	no	no	
4	1		week	100		yes		no	no		20 per ct			yes
6	1	2	week	100		yes		yes	no					no
8	1	3	week	100		yes	no	yes	no			yes		no
4	1	1	week	100		yes	no	no	no			yes		no
5	1	1	week	25	75	no	yes	no	no			yes	no	yes
4	1	1		50	50	yes	no	no	no			yes		yes
6	1	1	day	100		yes	no	no	no					
8	2	1	week	50	50	no		no	no					
2	1		week	100		yes		yes						yes
5	1	1	week	100		yes		no	no					
6	1	1	job	100		yes		no	no					
3	1	1	week	50	50	yes		same	no	no				yes
3	1	1	mo'th	50	50	yes		yes	no	no			10 p. c	no
6	2	1	week	25	75	no		no	no	no				
7	1	2	mo'th	100		yes		yes	no	no				yes
5	1		mo'th	25	75	no		no	no	no				no
6	1	1	job	25	75	no		no	no	no				no
4	1	1	week	100		yes		no	no	no				no

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	OCCUPATION.	Hours per day.	EARNINGS.			LOST TIME IN DAYS.		Cost of living per year without rent.	Living in own h'se.	Rent paid per year.
			Per Day.	Per Week.	Per Month.	Inability to obtain w'k	Other causes.			
Macon.										
	Wheelwright	10	$2 00	$	$	45	20	$		$
	Miner	11	1 25			60		200 00	no	free
	Miner		1 50			30		250 00	no	free
	Carpenter	11	1 25			90		175 00	yes	
Madison.										
	Carpenter*	10	2 00	12 00		100		216 00	yes	
	Carpenter*	11	2 00	12 00		60	20	350 00	no	48 00
	Sawyer	10	1 50					250 00	yes	
Martin.										
	Blacksmith	10	1 00					190 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 25					220 00	no	
Mecklenburg.										
	Carpenter	10	1 75	10 50		100		240 00		
	Cabinet Maker	10	1 75			60		300 00	no	75 00
	Machinist	10	2 00			35	30	400 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 50			40		300 00	no	84 00
Mitchell.										
	Miner	10	80	4 80	20 80		60	250 00	no	36 00
	Miner	10	80	4 80				150 00	no	36 00
	Sawyer	10	1 00				60	200 00	yes	
	Machinist									
Montgomery.										
	Machinist	10	1 50	9 00		40	16	75 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 75	10 50		30	14	200 00		
	Clerk	14			20 00			150 00		
	Sawyer	10	1 00			60		200 00		
	Turpentine work'r	12	1 00			90		150 00		
Moore.										
	Carriage maker	11	1 50	9 00			34	108 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 00				100	200 00	yes	
	Millwright	10	1 50	9 00				170 00	no	free
	Sawyer	11	75	4 50						free
	Carpenter	12	1 50			30		250 00	yes	
	Machinist	12	2 00			60		300 00	no	48 00
Nash.										
	Blacksmith	11	1 00					190 00	yes	
	Carpenter	11	1 00					210 00	no	36 00
	Laborer	10	60					150 00	no	36 00
New Hanover.										
	Carpenter	10	2 00			30	10	400 00	no	100 00
	Naval stores	10	2 00			60	14	350 00	no	60 00
	Machinist	10	2 50			25	4	450 00	yes	
	Laborer	10	80			25	20	200 00	no	36 00
	Carpenter	10	1 50			60		225 00	no	74 00
Northampton.										
	Wagon maker	10	1 25			19	8	190 00	yes	
	Sawyer	10	1 25			50	4	175 00	no	30 00
	Carpenter	10	1 25			60		200 00	no	48 00

2.—CONTINUED.

No. in family.	Work'g for wages.	Child'n att'g school	Paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. of wages paid in cash.	Per cent. in merchandise.	Do you trade where you choose?	Are you requ'ed to tr. at certain place?	Do you live better than 3 years ago?	Any insurance?	Per cent. increase in wages past year.	Decrease.	Has cost of living increased?	Decreased?	Any accumulation past year?
6														
3			week	100		yes		no						yes
5			mo'th	100		yes		yes						yes
4			job	40	60	no		no						
2	1		day	100		yes		no	no	no	no			
4	2	2	week	50	50	yes		no	no	25 p. c		yes		yes
6	1	2	week	100		yes		no	no	no		no		no
5	2		week	100		yes		no	no					no
5	1		job	50	50	no		no	no					no
2	1	1	week	100		yes		no	no					debt
3	1		week	100										yes
			week	100										
6	2	1	week	100		yes		no	no					no
9	1	5	mo'th	100		no	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
4	1	1	mo'th	100		no	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
5	1		week	50	50	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no
2	1		mo'th	50	50	yes		no	no	no	no	yes		no
				100		yes		yes	no	10 p. c	no	yes		no
2	1		mo'th	100		yes		same	no	no	no	10 per ct.		yes
5	1		mo'th	50	50	no		no	no	no	no	yes		no
6	2		mo'th	50	50	no		no	no	no	no	yes		no
1	1		mo'th	50	50	no		yes	yes	20 p. c				yes
5	2	3	week	25	75	no		no	no	no				no
7	1	2	mo'th			yes		no	no	20 p. c				yes
			mo'th	100		no	yes	no	no					no
			mo'th							5 p. c				
			week							no				
4		1	mo'th	25	75	no		no	no					no
3		1	job	50	50	no		no	no					no
5		1	day	100		yes		no	no		15 per ct.			no
5	2	1	week	100		yes		yes	yes			10 per ct.		
6	1	2	week	100		yes		yes	yes					
5	1	2	week	100		yes		no	no					
4	1	1	week	100		yes		no	no			15 per ct.		
6	2	1	week	100		yes		no	yes					
6	2	2	job	100		yes		no	yes			yes		no
5	1	2	week	50	50	no		no	no			yes		no
6	1	2	week	50	50	no		no	no			yes		no

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	OCCUPATION.	Hours per day.	EARNINGS.			LOST TIME IN DAYS.		Cost of living per year without rent.	Living in own h'se.	Rent paid per year.
			Per Day.	Per Week.	Per Month.	Inability to obtain w'k	Other causes.			
Onslow.										
	Carpenter	11	$1 25	$	$	25	60	$225 00	yes	$
	Blacksmith	12	1 00			45	25	175 00	no	35 00
	Sawyer	12	1 00			60		200 00	no	30 00
Orange.										
	R. R. Brakeman	10	80	5 00	20 00			200 00	yes	
	Laborer	13	75	4 50		8	3	150 00	yes	
	Laborer	13	70	3 50				100 00	yes	
	Carpenter	12	1 25			80	10	190 00	no	60 00
Pamlico.										
	Sawyer	10	75			60	20	150 00	yes	
	Carpenter	12	1 25			90		180 00	no	36 00
Pasquotank.										
	Oil Mill Operator	10	2 00						yes	
	Oil Mill Laborer	10	1 00							
	Sawyer	12	1 42						yes	
	Sawyer	10	1 50						yes	
	Laborer	12	75			20	16	165 00	no	30 00
	Carpenter	11	1 25			60	25	200 00	yes	
Perquimans.										
	Carpenter	12	1 25	7 50		75	75	150 00	yes	
	Blacksmith	12	1 50	9 00				250 00	no	60 00
	Painter	12	1 25			100	20	300 00	yes	
	Carpenter	12	1 50	6 00	26 00		1	125 00	yes	
Person.										
	Brick Maker	10	1 00			40	10	190 00		
	Sawyer	10	1 00					175 00		
	Carpenter	10	1 25			60	18	275 00		
Pitt.										
	Wagon Maker	10	1 66	10 00						60 00
	Carpenter	11	1 25							
	Machinist	10	1 75					350 00	yes	
	Printer	10	1 25				6	110 00		
	Laborer	11	75			20	10	190 00	no	30 00
Randolph.										
	Carpenter	12	1 50			60	100		yes	
	Sawyer	10	1 25						yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 25					300 00	yes	
	Laborer	11	75							
Richmond.										
	Carpenter	12	1 25			75		250 00		
	Blacksmith	12	1 00			40	10	100 00		
Robeson.										
	Brick Mason	10	2 00			90	20	400 00	yes	
	Carpenter	12	2 00			80	66	365 00	no	75 00
	Sawyer	12	1 25			40	30	190 00	yes	
	Printer	10	1 00				25	250 00	yes	
	Painter	10	1 00			30		200 00		

2.—CONTINUED.

No. in family.	Work'g for wages	Child'n att'g school	Paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. of wages paid in cash.	Per cent. in merchandise.	Do you trade where you choose?	Are you requ'ed to tr. at certain place?	Do you live better than 3 years ago?	Any insurance?	Per cent. increase in wages past year.	Decrease.	Has cost of living increased?	Decreased?	Any accumulation past year?
5	1	2	job	35	75	no	----	yes	no	-----	---- ----	---------	-----	no
6	2	1	mo'th	50	50	yes	----	yes	no	-- --	---------	---------	------	no
4	1	--	mo'th	100	----	yes	----	no	no	------	---- ----	---------	------	no
3	--	--	mo'th	100	---	yes	no	yes	no	------	---------	yes	------	yes
8	2	1	week	50	50	yes	no	no	no	no	no	same	------	yes
7	1	2	week	50	50	no	yes	no	yes	no	no	same	------	no
6	2	1	job	25	75	no	----	no	no	no	25 per ct.	yes	-----	no
5	1	-	day	33	----	yes	----	no	----	------	20 per ct.	yes	------	no
6	1	1	job	100	----	yes	----	same	----	------	10 per ct.	same	------	no
--	--	--	week	100	----	----	----	------	---	-----	---------	---- ---	------	------
--	--	--	week	100	---	----	----	------	----	-- --	--------	---- ---	------	------
--	--	--	week	100		----	----	------	----	------	---- ----	---- ---	------	yes
--		--	week	100	----	----	----	------		------	-------	---------	------	yes
4	2	--	day	---	----	----	--	no	no	------	--------	yes	------	no
5	1	--	job	50	50	no	----	no	yes	------	25 per ct.	yes	------	no
1	1	--	week	25	75	yes	----	no	no	------	20 per ct.	yes	------	debt
4	2	--	job	100		yes	----	yes	no	------	---------	---- ---	------	yes
8	2	3	------	25	75	no	----	no	no	------	20 per ct.	yes	------	no
2	2	--	job	100	----	yes	---	yes	no	------	---------	yes	------	yes
4	1	1	week	100	----	yes	---	no	no	------	10 per ct.	same	------	no
5	1	--	week	25	75	no	no	no	no	------	25 per ct.	same	------	no
5	1	1	job	50	50	no	no	no	no	------	20 per ct.	same	-----	no
2	1	--	week	100	----	yes	----	no	yes	----	--------	---------	------	yes
--	--	--	------	--	----	----	----	----	----	------	---------	---------	------	no
--	--	--	week	100	----	----	----	----	----	------	---------	---------	------	yes
1	1	--	week	100	--	yes	----	no	no	------	---- ----	---------	------	yes
4	1	1	week	50	50	yes	----	no	no	------	--------	yes	------	no
8	1	5	job	100	----	yes	----	yes	----	------	---------	---- ---	------	no
--	--	--	mo'th	100	----	----	---	----	---	------	---------	---------	------	-----
5	--	--	week	100	----	----	---	yes	----	------	---------	---------	------	no
--	--	--	week	100	---	----	--	no	---	------	--------	---- ---	------	no
5	1	1	job	33	67	---	----	no	no	no	10 per ct.	same	------	no
1	1	--	week	100	--	--	----	yes	no	no	no	yes	------	yes
8	2	1	job	75	25	yes	----	no	no	------	---------	yes	------	------
5	1	--	mo'th	100	----	yes		no	no	------	-------	---------	------	------
--	1	--	week	100	----	yes	----	no	no	------	--------	---------	------	------
1	1	--	mo'th	100	----	yes	--	no	no	------	---------	yes	------	------
1	1	--	job	50	50	yes	----	no	no	------	---------	---------	------	------

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	OCCUPATION.	Hours per day.	EARNINGS.			LOST TIME IN DAYS.		Cost of living per year without rent.	Living in own h'se.	Rent paid per year.
			Per Day.	Per Week.	Per Month.	Inability to obtain wo'k	Other causes.			
Rockingham.										
	Machinist	12	$	$	$40 00	32	8	$300 00	yes	$
	Carpenter	10	1 00				8	250 00	yes	
	Carpenter	12	1 75			100	30	300 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	2 75			150		300 00	no	90 00
	Laborer	12	65	3 50		95	18	140 00	no	36 00
	Brick Mason	10	1 50							
Rowan.										
	Blacksmith	11	1 50			90	10	300 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 50			20	20	350 00	no	96 00
	Machinist	10	2 00				15	375 00	no	100 00
	Brick Mason	10	2 00							
Rutherford.										
	Shoemaker	10	1 00	6 00		100	5	325 00	yes	
	Teacher	7	1 25			100	70	125 00	yes	
	Carpenter	12	1 25			60		290 00	yes	
Sampson.										
	Sawyer	12	1 00			45	6		yes	
	Laborer	12	70			20	29		yes	
Stanly.										
	Sawyer	12	1 00			60				
	Cabinet Maker	10	1 50				20		yes	
	Sawyer	10	1 00						yes	
	Laborer	11	60			30	15		no	
Stokes.										
	Carpenter	10	1 00			37				
Surry.										
	Wagon Maker	10	1 00						yes	
	Distiller	10	50	3 00	13 00			250 00	yes	
	Carpenter	11	1 00							
Swain.										
	Carpenter	10	1 00		26 00	18	54		yes	
	Carpenter	10	2 00	12 00			75	220 00	yes	
	Miller	8	35						yes	
	Brick Mason	10	2 00	15 00				250 00	yes	
Transylvania.										
	Distiller	10	75						yes	
	Carpenter	11	1 25							
Tyrrell.										
	Carpenter	10	1 50	9 00		18		300 00	yes	
Union.										
	Millwright	12	3 00			100		300 00	yes	
	Carpenter	11	1 25							
	Blacksmith	11	1 25							
Wake.										
	Carpenter	10	1 25			40		350 00	no	96 00
	Printer	10	2 33	14 00				500 00	yes	
	Seamstress	10	50	3 00				100 00	no	board
	Shoemaker	10	1 75			45	14	450 00	yes	
	Shoemaker	10	80			30	20	200 00	no	75 00

2.—CONTINUED.

No. in family.	Work'g for wages.	Child'n att'g scho l	Paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. of wages paid in cash.	Per cent. in merchandise.	Do you trade where you choose?	Are you requ'ed to tr. at certain place?	Do you live better than 3 years ago?	Any insurance?	Per cent. increase in wages past year.	Decrease—per cent.	Has cost of living increased?	Decreased?	Any accumulation last year?
5	1		week	100		yes		yes	yes	no		no		
5	1	1	mo'th	100		yes		no	yes	no	no	10 per ct.		no
9	2	2	week	100		yes		no	no	no	no	10 per ct.		no
3	1		week	100		yes		no	no	no	no	same		no
6	2	2	week	100		yes		no	no	no	25 per ct.	10 per ct.		debt
5	1	2	job	100		yes		yes	no	no		10 per ct.		yes
7	2	3	job	50	50	yes		no	no	no				yes
8	2	2	mo'th	100		yes		yes	yes			10 per ct.		yes
5		2	job	50	50	yes		no	no			5 per ct.		debt
3			mo'th	100		yes		no	no					no
6		2	job	50	50	yes		no	no	10 p.c.				
			day											yes
			day											no
			mo'th		100			no						no
			week	100		yes		no						no
			mo'th	25	75	no		no						no
			week	100		yes		no						no
2	1		job	100					no					yes
			mo'th	100						5 p. c.				
5	1	2	mo'th	100		yes		yes	no					debt
1			week	100		yes		yes	no	25 p.c.		yes		yes
4	1		week	100		yes		yes	no	20 p.c.				yes
		4	week	toll		yes		yes	no					yes
5	1	2	mo'th	100		yes		yes	no	same				yes
5	1	2		100		yes		no	no					no
7	1	3	mo'th	100		yes		yes	yes					yes
8	1	5	mo'th	100		yes			no	10 p.c.				
2	1		week	100		yes		no						yes
1	1		week	100		yes		no			20 per ct.			no
7	1	2	week	100		yes		yes	yes	10 p.c.				
4	1	1	week	100		yes		no	no		20 per ct.			debt

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	OCCUPATION.	Hours per day.	EARNINGS.			LOST TIME IN DAYS.		Cost of living per year without rent.	Living in own h'se.	Rent paid per year.
			Per Day.	Per Week.	Per Month.	Inability to obtain wo'k	Other causes.			
Wake										
	Carpenter	10	$1 75	$			20	$500 00	no	120 00
	Laborer	10	75			60		280 00	no	60 00
	Candy Maker	10	1 50					180 00	no	boa'ds
	Tobacco Worker	12	60			40		125 00	no	36 00
	Machinist	10	2 25				15	500 00	yes	
	Brick Mason	10	2 25			40	29	450 00	no	120 00
	Blacksmith	10	1 50	9 00			6	300 00	no	100 00
	Painter	10	1 50	9 00		60	10	360 00	no	96 00
Warren.										
	Carpenter	10	1 25			42	30	250 00	yes	
	Blacksmith	12	1 25				10	180 00	no	36 00
	Printer	10	1 25				30	300 00	no	60 00
	Painter	11	1 25			60			yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 50			60		280 00	no	72 00
Washington.										
	Machinist *	10	2 00				70	450 00	yes	
	Carpenter *	11	1 50			60	44	300 00	yes	
Watauga.										
	Blacksmith	12	1 00	5 00	20 00				yes	
	Carpenter *	11	1 50					300 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 00					200 00	yes	
Wayne.										
	Carriage Maker		2 00						yes	
	Carriage Maker		1 00						yes	
	Laborer		75						no	
Wilkes.										
	Distiller	10	75					150 00	yes	
	Carpenter *	12	1 25					200 00	yes	
	Stone Mason *	10	1 00	6 00				60 00	yes	
Wilson.										
	Carpenter	10	2 25			130		400 00	yes	
	Carpenter	10	1 50	9 00			2	375 00	yes	
	Blacksmith	10	2 00	12 00			8	boards		
	Carriage Maker	10	2 00							
	Moulder	10	1 50							
	Laborer	10	75							
Yadkin.										
	Tobacco Worker		75					100 00		
	Sawyer	12	75							
	Carpenter *	11	1 00							
	Laborer	11	65							
Yancey.										
	Wagon Maker	10	1 00						no	
	Miner	10	1 00						no	
	Laborer	10	50						no	
Vance.										
	Carpenter	10	2 25	13 50		150		400 00	no	72 00
	Shoemaker	10	1 25					350 00	no	75 00
	Carpenter	10	2 50				6	250 00	yes	
	R. R. Hand	13	75					150 00	yes	
	Brick Mason	10	2 00							

NOTE.—Trades marked thus * are followed in those counties in connection

2.—CONTINUED.

No. in family.	Work'g for wages.	Child'n att'g school	Paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. of wages paid in cash.	Per cent. in merchandise.	Do you trade where you choose?	Are you requ'ed to tr. at certain place?	Do you live better than 3 years ago?	Any insurance?	Per cent. increase in wages past year.	Decrease—per ct.	Has cost of living increased?	Decreased?	Any accumulation past year?
6	1	3	mo'th	100	..	yes	no	no	no	10 p.c.	.....	10 per ct.	...	no
5	2	1	week	100	..	yes	no	no	no	.....	.....	10 per ct.	...	yes
1	1	..	week	100	.	yes	....	yes	no	.....	.....	.....	.....	no
2	1	.	mo'th	100	..	yes	no	no	no	.. ..	.....	.....	.....	yes
7	1	3	mo'th	100	....	yes	no	yes	yes	.....	.....	.....	.....	yes
6	1	3	week	100	..	yes	no	no	yes	.. ..	.....	.....	.....	.....
6	1	1	week	100	...	yes	no	yes	no	15 p.c.	.....	10 per ct.	.....	no
4	1	1	week	100	....	yes	no	yes	no	.....	.....	15 per ct.	.....	no
5	1	1	week	75	25	....	no	no	no	.....	20 per ct.	10 per ct.	.....	no
4	1	2	week	50	50	...	no	yes	no	.. ..	.....	.....	.....	no
4	1	..	.....	100	.	yes	no	no	no	.....	.....	.....	....	no
6	1	2	job	..	...	...	...	no	yes	.....	.....	.....	.....	no
6	1	2	job	....	...	yes	....	yes	no	.....	.....	5 per ct.	.....	no
.	..	..	.....	...	..	....	....	.....	..	.. ..	....	.....	.....	.....
.	..	.	.....	.	....	..	..	...	....	. ..	.....	.....	....	.....
3	1	..	.....		....	yes	.	...	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4	1	5	job	100	....	yes	....	yes	no	.....	.....	5 per ct.	.....	yes
3	2		day	..	....	yes	....	no	no	.....	.....	.....	...	no
6	2	2	week	100	..	yes	....	yes	no	.....	....	10 per ct.	.....	yes
5	1	1	week	100	...	yes	....	no	yes	25 p.c.	.....	.....	.....	no
7	2	3	week	100	..	yes	....	no	no	.....	...	5 per ct.	.....	no
.		..	day	..	..	..	....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
..	..	..	.....	....	..	....	...	.....	...	.....	....	.....	...	.....
1	1		week	100	..	yes	....	yes	no	.....	.....	.....	.....	yes
3	1	..	week	100	....	yes	..	no	yes	.....	.....	5 per ct.	.....	no
2	1	.	week	100	...	yes	....	no	yes	.....	.....	10 per ct.	.....	yes
2	1	..	week	100	....	yes	....	yes	yes	.....	.....	10 per ct.	.....	no
..	..	..	week	100	..	..	....	..	..	.....	....	.....	.....	.....
..	..		week	100	....	..	..	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
..	..	..	.....	....	....	....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4	1	.	week	100	...	....	....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
..	..	..	day	100	...	.	....	...	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
..	..	..	week	100	....	..	....	.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
..	..	..	week	100	...	....	...	...	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
..	..		day	....	...	....	....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
..	..	.	mo'th	....	....	....	....	.....	...	.....	25 per ct.	.....	.....	.....
..	..	..	mo'th	..	...	....	...	...	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	... ..
4	2	..	job	100	...	yes	....	no	no	.....	.....	...	.....	no
4	1	1	job	100	..	yes	....	no	no	.....	.....	...	.....	no
8	..	..	week	100	....	yes	....	no	no	.....	.....	...	.....	yes
8	1	5	mo'th	100	...	yes	....	no	no	.....	.....	.....	.....	no
..	..	..	.....	...	....	....	....	.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

with some other work—usually farming.

VIEWS OF WORKINGMEN.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE BUREAU ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS FROM WORKINGMEN IN THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES OF THE STATE.

ALAMANCE.

W. H. T.—As regards the relations between labor and capital, would say: My relations are about equally divided between both classes, as I spend much of my time among the laboring class, and also have much intercourse with the employers, and I find a general feeling of distrust with both parties, and in some instances much bitterness. The laborer does not think he gets a fair share of the profits, and the capitalist disposed to keep him down to the lowest figures.

ALEXANDER.

E. B. J.—A large per cent. of those living in this county own land and work it themselves. Very few other occupations other than farming. Hours of work, 10; wages, carpenters, $1.50 per day.

ALLEGHANY.

T. J. C.—Workingmen when working for wages in this county sometimes are employed by the day. In the majority of cases, however, they take work by the job, and employ assistants by the month. There are no manufacturing enterprises, strictly speaking, in this county.

ANSON.

CARPENTER.—Apprentices are employed without limit, and crowd out men on all ordinary jobs. We need apprentice laws. Work 11 hours per day. Get $1.25 per day. Lost 100 days last year. Have one child at school. Am paid monthly, part in cash and part in merchandise. Have not accumulated anything the past year.

BLACKSMITH.—Wages are low and schools poor. I work 12 hours per day and get $1.25 per day. I live in my own house. Have 10 in family, send 4 to school. Am paid weekly. There are too many apprentices in my trade. Have not accumulated anything past year.

LABORER.—I work 12 hours per day at 75 cents per day. Live in my own house. Have 9 in family. Have one child at school. Am paid monthly, half in cash and half in merchandise. Have not accumulated anything during past year.

J. W. T.—No regular manufacturing enterprises in this county, more than ordinary saw and grist mills. There is no regular established price for mechanics and laborers, and no regular hours for work; they usually work from sun to sun, with an hour or an hour and a half at dinner.

ASHE.

CARPENTER.—Workmen should receive their wages in cash and at regular stated times. Work 10 hours per day at $1 per day. Live in my own house. Have two

in family. Am paid part in cash and part in merchandise. Accumulated something past year.

J. H. D.—This is an agricultural and stock-raising county, and no manufacturing enterprises much in the county; hence there is no general system for hours of work.

BEAUFORT.

LABORER.—I think there should be a law making 10 hours a day's work. There would be more work done in the 10 hours than is now done in 12. I also think that large tracts of unoccupied land should be taxed to its full value, so that it would be impossible to hold thousands of acres of land for speculation simply. Work 13 hours at 50 cents per day. Live in my own house. Have 8 in family and 4 at school. Am paid weekly in merchandise.

MACHINIST.—In this section men get from $1.00 to $1.75 per day at the mills; 75 cents on farms. Work is not very plentiful. Working people need to learn to economise in household expenses and dress. They need cooking schools—advice in the direction of economical living—about as much as they need employment.

BLADEN.

CARPENTER.—Three years ago a depression of labor set in and wages fell, but the prospects are now better.

TURPENTINE WORKER.—Work is tolerably plenty but wages are so low we can hardly live at all. My wages are 50 cents per day. Seven in family; only one old enough to earn any wages at all; he gets 25 cents per day. Many laborers have gone South to Georgia and elsewhere to find better wages. We shall more of us have to leave if we do not get better wages.

BERTIE.

CARPENTER.—I think the eight-hour law would be beneficial to laboring men. The workingmen ought to be better organized, and it would be to their advantage.

COACH-WORKMAN.—If every one would go to work and stop loafing around the streets it would be better for them. It would be a good thing if these loafers had something to do and were compelled to do it. If they were, the industrious women would be greatly benefited. If we could get whiskey out of our community the poor women would stand a better showing; the men would then study more about home and its comforts. Whiskey is the great curse in this community.

BUNCOMBE.

BRICK-LAYER.—Work 10 hours per day at $3 per day. There is much lost time in winter, and too many workmen at other times—many travelling workmen—with whom we have to divide work, hence work is not always plentiful even in good weather. Have five in family; two attend school. Paid monthly in cash. Accumulated nothing last year. Lost considerable time last year.

TINNER AND IRON-WORKER.—Work 10 hours per day. We seriously need good apprentice laws, requiring mechanics to be real mechanics; wages would then be better. Live in my own house. Have five in family; one attends school. Am paid in cash. Accumulated something past year.

CARPENTER.—While there is much work going on in Asheville there are many carpenters out of employment. The "booms" published in the newspapers bring workingmen here in great numbers, who find, on coming, that there is no boom for them. Many of them are idle part of the time, and that fact operates to reduce wages. Work 10 hours per day at $2.25 per day. Have six in family. Am paid in cash. Accumulated nothing past year.

FOREMAN PLANING-MILL.—The things specially needed by the working class are prohibition, compulsory education, and cheaper homes. Work 10 hours per day at $3 per day. Live in my own house. Have six in family—one attends school. Am paid weekly in cash. Accumulated something past year.

CARPENTER.—Work 10 hours per day at $2.75 per day. Live in my own house. Have three in family. Am paid weekly in cash. Have not accumulated anything past year.

CARPENTER.—Work 10 hours per day; get $1.50 per day. Am paid weekly in cash. Have not accumulated anything past year.

MECHANIC.—Work 10 hours per day at $2.25 per day. Have four in family. Am paid weekly in cash. Accumulated nothing past year. Rent house at $72 per year.

CARPENTER.—Work 10 hours per day at $2 per day. Lost last year one-third of my time. Live in my own house. Have six in family; have two at school. Am paid weekly in cash. Accumulated nothing last year.

FOREMAN SHOE FACTORY.—Work 12 hours per day at $2 per day. Live in my own house. Have three in family; have one at school. Am paid weekly in cash. Accumulated something past year.

BURKE.

BLACKSMITH.—We need to learn to patronize home work. Our boys need not learn to make wagons if we are going to buy those made in Wisconsin in preference. Work 10 hours per day at $1.25 per day. Lost 150 days on account sickness. Live in my own house. Have ten in family; four attend school. Accumulated nothing past year.

BRUNSWICK.

CARPENTER.—There is no system among mechanics about apprentices or anything else. Mechanics have to compete with persons who know very little about work, and are expected to do a better job for same money. There ought to be a law forbidding any mechanic taking contracts unless he can produce a certificate of proficiency from some board of examiners or authorized person. Work 10 hours per day at $1.50 per day. Lose about one-third of my time for lack of work. Pay $54 per year rent. Have two in family. Am paid weekly part in cash and part in merchandise. Have not accumulated anything past year.

E. W. T.—There are very few workmen in this county outside of farm and turpentine laborers. We have a few small saw-mills, but no first-class sawyers. We have also a few water-mills, but when machinists are required we get them from other counties, usually New Hanover.

S. P. S.—There is always more or less work going on on the river, which gives employment to laborers at $15 to $20 per month. This work is partly on vessels and flats and steamers.

CABARRUS.

BLACKSMITH.—The laboring class in the town of Concord and surrounding country are doing very well, and there is perfect harmony between employer and employee. Work 10 hours per day at $2 per day. Live in my own house. Have seven in family; have two children at work and two at school. Am paid monthly in cash.

CHATHAM.

N. H. H.—Section Master on railroad. Get $7 per week in cash, and house to live in. Have seven in family; have three at school.

J. G.—There is no set number of hours for day's work; 10 hours is about the average. With mechanics there is so much loss of time they make a poor living. Most of mechanical work in this county is done by the job.

CHEROKEE.

CARPENTER.—The railroad is now in seven miles of our town, and in my opinion will give a large increase in my line of work, and will benefit the country in every respect. Corn crops are the best that have been known here for several years. We need more schools and more improved machinery.

J. A.—Mechanics and laborers usually work by the job in this county.

CLEVELAND.

PAINTER.—There are numerous tramps going through the country at certain times pretending to be mechanics, and taking jobs at any price and putting off any sort of work on the people and defrauding them out of their money. They are crowding out worthy mechanics and making them almost tramps from necessity. Work 11 hours per day at $2 per day. Live in my own house. Have ten in family; three at school. Am paid weekly, part in cash and part in merchandise. Have not aecumulated anything past year.

MECHANIC.—Work 10 hours per day at $1.50 per day. Live in my own house. Have two in family.

COLUMBUS.

TEACHER.—Work 10 hours per day and get $5 per week. Pay $24 per year rent. Have eight in family, four at school. Am paid weekly in cash. Have accumulated something past year.

CRAVEN.

CARPENTER.—The condition of workingmen is deplorable. The good mechanic and the poor one are classed together. We need, more than anything else, a law grading carpenters and other mechanics, to protect the public, give proper wages to good workmen, and encourage the poor mechanic to make himself proficient. We also need shorter work hours, so as to enable us to improve socially. Work 10 hours per day at $1.75 per day. Pay $72 per year rent. Have two in family. Am paid monthly in cash. Have accumulated nothing past year.

BOILER-MAKER.—The trouble in my business is the competition I have to meet because the A. & N. C. R. R. takes private jobs lower than I can afford. I don't object to private competition, but do object to corporation competition like this. Work 8 hours per day. Pay $72 rent. Have three in family. Have not accumulated anything past year.

DARE.

J. W. E.—There are no manufacturing enterprises in this county. Labor is mostly engaged in fishing enterprises, etc. Mariners get $15 per month; Life-Saving men, $50; fishermen, $25; boat builders, $2 per day.

DAVIDSON.

BLACKSMITH.—Work 10 hours per day at $1 per day. Live in my own house. Have eight in family; three attend school. Am paid in cash as I want it. Have not accumulated anything the past year.

DURHAM.

BOOK-KEEPER.—I work 10 hours per day at $100 per month. Live in my own house. Have two in family. Am paid by the week in cash.

BRICK-LAYER.—I work 10 hours per day at $2.50 per day. Lost 90 days last year for lack of work. Pay $72 per year rent. Have two in family. Paid semi-monthly in cash. Have run in debt a little past year.

FRANKLIN.

BUILDER AND PAINTER.—Work 10 hours per day at $2 per day. Live in my own house. Have four in family. Am paid weekly, some in cash and some in merchandise. There are too many apprentices in my trade.

STONE-MASON.—If the working men and women of this vicinity could get cash for their labor, they would be much benefited. The general rule here is to pay in trade and orders to stores, etc. We get very small wages, and the orders are not worth more than three-fourths what the cash would be; thus we lose at least one-fourth of our wages. We have no system, but work anywhere and any way, usually from sun to sun, often from light till dark. Our condition financially is very bad, morally improving; the interest in education growing.

GASTON.

BRICK-MASON.—The thing most needed by the working classes is regular work and fair pay. Work 11 hours per day at $2.50 per day. Live in my own house. Have three in family. Am paid in cash.

PAINTER.—The best thing I can suggest is hard work, economy and good wages to be paid in cash. Work 10 hours per day at $1.50. Lost 160 days last year. Live in my own house. Have four in family, with one at school. Am paid in cash. Accumulated nothing past year.

CARPENTER.—Wages are too low, though my wages ($1.50 per day) are above the average, yet can hardly support my family, and it is impossible to dress them

as is expected by society. Work 12 hours per day at $1.50 per day. Live in my own house. Have eight in family, with one at school. Am paid monthly in cash. Ran in debt past year.

RAILROAD AGENT.—Get $10 per month. Live in my own house. Have seven in family; have three at school. Am paid monthly in cash. Have accumulated something past year. Three of my family are employed at farm work.

R. W. W.—Carpenters' wages are about 25 per cent. lower this year than last; brick-masons' about 30 per cent. People in this section are generally in debt on account of short crops last year. Journeyman work is scarce.

GATES.

W. H. M.—There is a class of laborers, perhaps peculiar to this section, engaged in working timber in our shingle (cypress and juniper) swamps, who are employed to get out shingles by the thousand and railroad ties at so much apiece. They doubtless average $1.50 per day.

GRANVILLE.

CARPENTER.—Wages are very low and paid very irregular. We should compel all employers to pay employees weekly and in cash. Work 12 hours per day at $1.50 per day. Pay $36 per year rent. Have five in family, with two at school. Am paid one-fourth in cash and three-fourths merchandise. Accumulated nothing.

GRAHAM.

J. L. C.—Graham county is destitute of railroad facilities, and almost wholly undeveloped. There is nothing in the line of manufacturing. The wages reported for workmen are those paid by small concerns, and for such private work, such as building, etc., as is done. Farming is the chief industry.

C. R.—Our public schools as carried on in this county are not very advantageous, owing to inefficiency of teachers and want of books. No manufacturing carried on.

GUILFORD.

CARPENTER.—Men should be paid according to their worth, and paid regularly in cash. I think an eight-hour law would work an advantage to all; it would make room for idle hands, and give a chance to those who would like to study and improve. Work 10 hours per day at $1 per day. Pay $30 per year rent. Have three in family. Am paid half cash and half merchandise. Went in debt last year.

WORKER IN WOOLEN MILL.—I am only an apprentice; journeymen's wages in this business are from $1.50 to $2 per day. I get 50 cents per day, in cash.

FOREMAN COTTON MILL.—Work 12 hours per day at $1.50 per day. Live in my own house. Have four in family. Am paid monthly. Have one at school and one in cotton mill.

MINER.—Work 10 hours per day at $1.25 per day. Lost sixty days' time last year for lack of work. Live in my own house. Have six in family. Am paid monthly in cash. Accumulated nothing last year.

J. F. C.—Do not think there is a man or woman in this county that wants to work that is not at work. Of course there are people here, as elsewhere, who do not care to work.

HALIFAX.

WHEELWRIGHT.—Lower tariff and more wholesome laws for the protection and encouragement of labor would improve the condition of the country, I think. There are now too many consumers and not enough workers. The condition of working people is getting worse instead of better. Work 10 hours per day at 50 cents per day, in cash. Pay $40 a year rent. Have five in family. Went in debt last year.

HARNETT.

A. W. G.—No mechanical enterprises carried on in this county, except in a small way.

HAYWOOD.

CARPENTER.—Wages are lower now than three years ago; we got better wages then and were paid in cash; we get very little cash now. Work 11 hours per day at $1.25 per day. Lost sixty days last year for want of work. Have six in family, and one at school. Am paid weekly in cash. Accumulated nothing last year.

CARPENTER.—Work 10 hours per day at $1.75 per day. Lost thirty days last year for want of work. Pay $48 per year rent. Have four in family and one at school. Am paid weekly, part cash and part merchandise. Accumulated something last year.

W. S. P.—The mechanical occupations in this county are small. There is but one manufacturing establishment that I know of. Our State Government ought to exempt many of our manufacturing enterprises from taxation for ten years, in order to encourage home manufacturing.

W. T. C.—The conditions and prospects of the laboring class is very satisfactory, and sufficient to give them constant employment. Much of the painting, plastering and brick work is done by parties from various parts of the State, who engage temporarily. The demand for skilled labor is growing. The lumbering business is a very important industry with our people, and is a permanent one. It will, ere long, be of such importance as to give employment to imported labor at good prices. There is a demand for farm hands at $10 to $13 per month. There is no reason for anybody to be idle in Haywood, as the labor of all is in demand at remunerative prices. Ten hours per day is the uniform time of a day in all business except on the farm, where no time is kept, but generally will exceed ten hours.

HYDE.

MECHANIC.—We need better schools. They are now taught but a short time, with very poor teachers. White laborers get along very well. Black laborers very poor: they are always in debt. Work 10 hours per day at $1.25 per day. Live in my own house. Have six in family and two at school. Am paid weekly in cash.

MECHANIC.—Work 10 hours per day at $2 per day, in cash.

L. H. S.—Farming is the chief occupation in this county. A day's work is usually from sun to sun.

IREDELL.

CONTRACTOR.—The need of the times is education, and the suppression of the liquor traffic. Until this is done, we shall not have education. The free schools are not properly conducted. The teacher that will teach the longest time for the money on hand gets the job, regardless of qualification. We need compulsory education. Work 10 hours per day at $2.50 per day, in cash. Am paid weekly. Pay $75 rent per year. Have four in family.

JACKSON.

J. M. C.—We have no manufacturing enterprises in the county, except mills, etc. There are no uniform hours for work—from 10 to 12 are observed.

W. A. R.—Since the railroad has been operating in our county it has been developing rapidly. We have great wealth in minerals, timber and water-power, and when these are developed we will have one of the best counties in North Carolina.

JONES.

MACHINIST.—Colored labor is abundant, though not very reliable. They spend too much of their time preaching, hunting and fishing. Work 10 hours per day, at $1.50 in cash per day. Live in my own house. Have two in family. Have accumulated something past year.

T. A. B.—There are no manufacturing enterprises in this county, except grist and saw-mills. There are a few mechanics, such as blacksmiths, carpenters and machinists, at various places in the county. Other mechanics are generally obtained from adjoining counties, when needed. The prices sent you are for work done when needed, which is irregular.

LINCOLN.

FOREMAN COTTON MILL.—Twelve hours are too many for a day's work. No man can do justice to himself or his family that is kept at hard work 12 hours. All mills and factories should be easy of egress and be provided with fire-escapes. Work 12 hours per day at $1.25 per day. Live in my own house. Have three in family. Am paid monthly in cash. Went in debt past year.

PAPER-MAKER.—We work 12 hours, each set of hands. The mill never stops except Sunday. We need the ten-hour system, and cash for our wages. At present we get only part cash. The owners of the mill I work for own three mills and employ fifty hands. The wages range from 32½ cents to $2.50 per day; but not many of the latter. I get $1 per day. Have three in family, and one at school. Am paid weekly, part in cash and part in merchandise. Accumulated something past year.

PAPER-MAKER.—We need shorter hours of work. We work 12 hours—10 is enough. The company keeps a store and charge high for their goods. We are not forced to trade there unless we get in debt to them. I think hands are treated as well here as at any factory. Get $1.25 per day, part in cash and part in merchandise. Accumulated nothing past year.

MACON.

MECHANIC.—Work 10 hours at $2 per day. Live in my own house. Have four in family. Am paid partly in cash and partly in merchandise.

M. L. K.—Mechanics in this county do not hire by the month. Nearly all work either by the day or by the job. They work 12 hours to the day, usually at very small wages.

M'DOWELL.

J. S. B.—We have fine water power that might be utilized if there was a disposition in our people to engage in the manufacturing business. There is an abundance of iron ore in the country. Also a fine sheep country, if there was a home demand for wool. A well timbered country of a great variety of timbers, walnut, cherry, maple, birch, poplar, ash, all suitable for furniture manufacturing. Fine timber for wagon or carriages, coopering, house building, etc.

MADISON.

CARPENTER.—Mechanics have much trouble contending with jacklegs. They take a contract for any kind of job at any price, and run the risk of getting something out of it. They should be made to give a bond for satisfactory completion of all jobs. Work 10 hours per day at $2 per day in cash. Live in my own house. Have two in family.

MECHANIC.—There is no system among workingmen. There is some tendency in that direction as education increases. Work 11 hours per day at $2 per day, part in cash and part in merchandise. Pay $48 per year rent. Went in debt little last year.

J. E. B.—There is little labor in this county outside of farming, running mills, &c. Most of labor is paid for in merchandise.

MECKLENBURG.

CARPENTER.—There is no standard of wages in this county, outside of Charlotte, nor hours of work. The working masses are in a destitute condition. There are more of them than can find work. They are, therefore, completely at the mercy of employers, and wages are very low in every line. At the gold mines it is some better. Work 10 hours per day at $1.75 per day. Am paid weekly in cash. Have two in family and board. Ran in debt last year.

MITCHELL.

MINER.—We lose all bad weather, and our rent and fire wood and doctor's bills go on just the same. Work 10 hours per day at 80 cents per day. Am paid monthly in cash. Pay $36 per year rent. Have nine in family. Lost 60 days' time last year. Five of my children go to school.

MINER.—Wages are low, and the miners are not able to sufficiently clothe their children to send them to school. Two hundred men at work at this (Cranberry) Mine. Work 10 hours per day at 80 cents per day. Lost 60 days last year from work. Have four in family and one at school. Am paid monthly in cash. Accumulated nothing last year.

MINER.—Mine hands in this county three years ago were paid from $1 to $2 per day; they now receive 75 to 80 cents per day. The Iron and Coal Company of Cranberry pay their ordinary labor but 80 cents per day in scrip, which is shaved by the merchants when cashed at about twenty per cent. discount. There are no labor organizations in this county.

MONTGOMERY.

CLERK.—Let's have prohibition all over the State, be more cautious about going in debt, and I think we will improve. Work 14 hours per day at $20 per month, in cash. Live in my own house. Have two in family. Accumulated something past year.

MACHINIST.—Work 10 hours per day at $1.50 per day. Live in my own house. Am paid by the week, half in cash and half in merchandise. Accumulated nothing past year.

H. T. S.—Times are very tight with the laboring class in this county; they cannot get money for their work, because the money is not in the county. There is not much manufacturing in this county.

MOORE.

CARRIAGE-MAKER.—I am glad to see the Old North State looking after her working people. We need to do this, for in many cases they are in a bad way, and much imposed upon. At this place there is a carriage firm that turns out a job every day and employ 45 men. They are fairly well paid, and doing very well. They are working more than ten hours, though, and are not satisfied that this should be so. Ten hours' honest work, in manual labor, is enough. Work 11 hours per day at $1.50 per day. Live in my own house. Am paid half in cash and half in merchandise. Accumulated something past year.

CARPENTER.—I think coöperation and a better circulation of money would improve workingmen's condition. Work 10 hours at $1 per day. Live in my own house. Have five in family and three at school. Am paid weekly, one-fourth in cash and three-fourths in merchandise. Accumulated nothing.

MILLWRIGHT.—We are not paid in cash; we take trade tickets, which are same as cash at the company's store. Work 10 hours per day at $1.50 per day. Have house free. Have seven in family, and two at school.

SAWYER.—We are paid weekly in trade tickets, which are good only at the company's store. All goods cost us more than they would if we could buy for cash. They charge high for their goods, but we must pay it. I hope your Bureau will be able to remedy this. Sixty hands are employed by the Parkwood Mill-Stone Company; they are all subject to the ticket system. Work 11 hours per day at 75 cents in merchandise.

ORANGE.

BRAKEMAN ON RAILROAD.—All wages should be paid in cash. The law should prevent any paying in orders, or tickets. Work 10 hours per day at 80 cents per day in cash. Live in my own house. Accumulated nothing last year. Have three in family.

TOBACCO WORKER.—We have to work for low wages and take pay mostly in trade or lose our job; therefore we cannot send our children to school much for want of suitable clothing. Work 13 hours per day at 75 cents per day. Live in my own house. Have eight in family.

LABORER.—Wages very low and work scarce. Seventy-five men in this place (Hillsboro) out of work, and poor prospects ahead. Work 13 hours at 75 cents per day in cash. Have seven in family and two at school. Accumulated nothing past year.

PERQUIMANS.

CARPENTER.—The mechanics in this section are in a poor condition. They work from sun to sun and at very low wages; and then, oftener than otherwise, have to trade out their wages. We get very little wages in cash. Employers should be compelled to pay in cash for work done. Ten hours should constitute a day's work. Work 12 hours per day at $1.25 per day, part in cash and part in merchandise. Live in my own house. Ran in debt past year.

CARPENTER.—Work 12 hours per day at $1.50, cash. Live in my own house. Have two in family. Accumulated something past year.

PERSON.

E. W. B.—The mechanical occupations followed in this county do not afford steady employment. The prices stated for this county are those received when mechanics are employed, which is usually only for a few days at a time. The prices paid labor in this county are not as good as formerly on account of the general depression and hard times consequent upon the crop failures of recent years.

PITT.

CARRIAGE-WORKER.—There should be some law enacted by which competent mechanics and the public would be protected against incompetent jacklegs. A board of examiners in each county to issue certificates of proficiency to such mechanics as pass satisfactory examinations, and only such shall collect their pay by law. Boys would then be encouraged to learn trades, and make themselves thoroughly competent. Work 10 hours per day at $1.66⅔ per day, cash; paid weekly. Pay $6 per month rent. Have 2½ in family.

E. G. L.—In towns we work 10 hours for a day; in the country from sun to sun. Wages are low, and nobody but a lazy negro can work at them and live. We need a better system of labor and better wages. We need a different kind of farming and better prices for what is raised, so as to pay better prices for labor. To do this we need to bring down the tariff.

POLK.

W. R. J.—We have no manufacturing enterprises in this county. We need more capital, so that we can develop the county and employ mechanical labor.

RANDOLPH.

CARPENTER.—I think there should be a law making ten hours a day's work, and requiring all mechanics to give bond for all contracts they take; mechanics

would then be protected somewhat from jacklegs. Work 12 hours per day at $1.50 per day, cash. Have eight in family, and five at school.

COTTON MILL WORKER.—The Central Manufacturing Company's cotton mills are near me. They employ 75 hands, and pay cash once a week. They also give checks, which are current for 30 miles around. The hands are doing well, but do not school their children much. Have five in family. Am paid weekly in cash.

SUPERINTENDENT COTTON MILL.—Ten hours are enough for a day's work, where children are worked from twelve years old and up, and I think the mills of this section are willing to it, if all would adopt it. I think there should be a law making all run 60 hours per week, and compelling parents to send their children to school. I work 11½ hours per day, at $75 per month. Have four in family and one at school. Live in my own house.

ROBESON.

CARPENTER.—While I get cash for my work, there are many who are glad to get work for trade. We have no labor organization; I think one would do good. Work 12 hours per day at $2 per day. Pay $75 per year rent. Have five in family and one at school. Am paid monthly in cash. Ran in debt last year.

BRICK-MASON.—Work 10 hours per day at $2 per day. Live in my own house. Have eight in family; one attends school. Am paid weekly in cash. Accumulated something past year.

J. A. F.—We have no manufacturing enterprises in this section, and very little manufacturing done in the county; ours is a farming county. Some turpentine worked. Therefore we have no standard prices for any kind of work except farming, and the prices for farm labor are not very well regulated. The tendency is to decrease the price paid for labor of all kinds, and but few laborers make more than enough for a bare support. Carpenters and other mechanics receive generally $1 per day; ordinary laborers 50 cents; women 30 cents; children 10 to 15 cents per day. Work 10 hours; paid usually by the day or month. Our people are a religious people, and usually attend church very well, both white and colored.

ROCKINGHAM.

BOX-MAKER IN TOBACCO WORKS.—Wages, as a general thing, are very low at this time, and labor is not organized here. Mechanics who last year got $1.50 to $2 per day, are now working for 75 cents to $1.25. I get $2.75 per day, and work 10 hours. I am paid by the month, in cash. Pay no rent. Have five in family; one attends school. Accumulated nothing past year.

TOBACCO FACTORY HAND.—There would good come to working men from thorough organization. I do not approve of strikes, but think a more perfect understanding of our duties and rights absolutely necessary. I work 12 hours per day and get 65 cents. Am paid by the week. Pay $36 per year rent. One other member of family makes $50 per year. I have six in family; two attend school.

CARPENTER.—I work 12 hours per day; get $1 per day. Am paid by the week. Have nine in family. One other member of the family works and makes $100

per year. Lost last year 150 days' work on account of inability to get it. Two of my children attend school. Live in my own house.

CARPENTER.—The total abolition of revenue laws, a sound protective tariff, and a good system of free schools would be for the good of the workingmen; with the abolition of national banks and the enactment of a law making eight hours a day's work. My hours of work per day 10. I get $1.75. Pay $90 per year rent. Receive weekly pay. I have three in family.

MACHINIST.—I believe there ought to be a law preventing all tobacco and cotton factories, machine shops, wood-working shops, and all other manufactories, from working over ten hours a day, and to compel all persons and corporations who own shops, where sufficient dust is created to be injurious to health, to put exhaust-fans in them to take away the dust.

RUTHERFORD.

TEACHER.—The working people of this county, as a rule, are in debt, caused for the most part, by buying on time. If they would adopt the cash plan, they would improve their condition. My hours of labor in the school-room are about seven, and my pay $1.25 per day for time employed. Live in my own house. Three in family. Accumulated nothing past year.

SHOE-FACTORY HAND.—Shoe workmen have been very much hurt by the penitentiary shoe-shops, and am glad to see they have been stopped. The whipping-post would be better than convict competition. I make $1 per day—work by the piece. Have five in family, and live in my own house. Two children attend school. Ran in debt last year.

CARPENTER.—Mechanical work is very low in this county, owing to competition. We have but few manufacturing enterprises. There is one cotton factory now being constructed, which will turn out all kinds of plaids, etc.

SAMPSON.

DISTILLER.—There is very little manufacturing carried on in this county—about twenty-five turpentine distilleries and three registered whiskey distilleries. We have natural facilities for almost any kind of factory.

STANLY.

MECHANIC.—Ours is an agricultural county. The farmers employ mechanics more or less, and generally pay good wages. Colored mechanics always underwork the whites, and generally fail to give satisfaction. There is no contest between labor and capital in this county.

CARPENTER.—We have no such thing in our county as combinations of capital against labor or labor against capital, with our native element. Have heard of some trouble with English gold-mining company and their laborers, because of docking their wages. Cheap labor in our county is very unreliable.

STOKES.

CARPENTER.—I work 10 hours per day and get $1 per day, in cash. Have two in family. Accumulated something past year.

SWAIN.

MECHANIC.—I work 12 hours per day and get $1 per day. I have no family. Am paid by the week in cash. I live in my own house. There are two apprentices to each journeyman.

CARPENTER.—There should be a law making 10 hours a day's work, and requiring employees to be paid weekly in cash. This would be a benefit to employers as well as to all classes. I work 10 hours and get $2 per day. Live in my own house, and have four in family. Am paid by the week in cash. There are two apprentices employed to each journeyman. Past year accumulated something.

BRICK-MASON.—I think the interest of all classes would be advanced by making ten hours in summer and eight hours in winter a day's work. I work 10 hours the year round, and get $2.50 per day. I live in my own house and have five in family. Am paid monthly in cash. I have two children at school. Past year accumulated something.

DEPUTY U. S. MARSHAL.—Work about 10 hours per day at $2.50. Live in my own house. Past year accumulated something.

CARPENTER.—Work at my trade and own a farm of one hundred acres, which my family work. Have four children at school. Am accumulating something.

TYRRELL.

MECHANIC.—I work 10 hours per day, and get $1.50 per day. Live in my own house. Have five in family, and two children at school.

UNION.

MILLWRIGHT.—We need apprentice laws very much. Some trades are overrun and others are needing apprentices. I work 11 hours per day and get $3 per day. Live in my own house. Have seven in family and three at school. Am paid monthly in cash. Have accumulated something during past year. Too many apprentices in my calling. There is scarcely any manufacturing going on in our county. Mechanics work by the day and by the job. The hours of work are generally from sun to sun.

WASHINGTON.

CARPENTER.—We need a ten-hour work-day law, and a law to protect the country against incompetent workmen. The times are very hard, and many can't get work. I work 12 hours per day, at $1.50 per day. Have three in family, and one at school. Half of my wages are paid in cash, balance in merchandise; am paid monthly. Have accumulated something past year.

WAKE.

PRINTER.—The minimum rate of wages of printers is $14 per week, or 33⅓ cents per thousand ems. Some receive $15 per week, and others $17, $18, and even $20 has been paid to foremen, superintendents, etc. Ten hours is a day's work. The subject of adopting nine hours as a day's work has been agitated considerably. The last International Union adopted nine hours, to go into effect November

1st, 1887. North and West it will doubtless cause a ferment at that time; but at the South I think there will be but a limited attempt at introducing the change. All propositions for any change in this respect have been rejected by the Union in Raleigh so far.

WATAUGA.

MECHANIC.—Work 12 hours per day and live in my own house. Get $1.00 per day.

MECHANIC.—Work 10 hours per day at $1.00 per day. Live in my own house. Have three in family. Am paid by the day, mostly merchandise. Have not accumulated anything past year.

MECHANIC.—No system of mechanical labor is carried on in this county. There are no manufacturing establishments of note. The prices reported are those paid by the day on irregular jobs.

WILSON.

CARPENTER.—We do not have regular work. That is the trouble with my trade. I work 10 hours per day at $2.25 per day. Lost 130 days last year. Live in my own house. Have three in family. Am paid in cash. I have not accumulated anything past year.

CARPENTER.—The habit of dram drinking is the great drawback to my section and trade, and consequent loss of time. Work 10 hours per day at $1.50 per day. Live in my own house. Have two in family. Am paid weekly in cash. Have accumulated something past year.

BLACKSMITH.—We need good apprentice laws, and the mechanics should keep away from bar-rooms. Mechanics are generally in a very cramped condition. I work 10 hours per day at $2.00. Have a family of two and board. Am paid weekly in cash. Have not accumulated anything past year.

WILKES.

STONE-MASON.—The general condition of the working classes is favorable in this county. But there is a scarcity of work for want of capital. Manufactures would improve the condition of the county, because they would give employment to those who have it not.

VANCE.

CARPENTER.—We greatly need an apprentice law. It looks now as if a third of the population proposed to be carpenters, and a great many poor workmen are turned out. They are poorly prepared in their trade, but good workmen have to compete with them. The law regulates the fitness of a man who is to be intrusted with the peace and property of a community, and the man who proposes to deal with the health of the people; why not require fitness in the man who builds houses wherein we are to risk our lives. I work 10 hours per day and get $2.25 per day. Lost 150 days last year on account of inability to get work. I pay $6 per month rent. Have four in family. Have accumulated nothing the past year.

RAILROAD HAND.—There is no chance of improvement at the present long hours and low wages. Ten hours is enough for a man to work per day. I work

13 hours at $12 per month, in cash. I live in my own house. Have eight in family, and five attend school.

CARPENTER.—I work 10 hours per day at $2.50 per day. I live in my own house. Have eight in family. Am paid by the week in cash. Have accumulated something past year.

SHOEMAKER.—Wages $1.25 per day; hours irregular. Takes all I can earn to support my family, which numbers four. One child attends school irregular. Apprentices are employed without any system or rule—generally too many to make a living at the business. I would say that for the improvement of mechanics of all trades, that there ought to be a law classifying them according to skill, first grade, second grade and third grade, and require a man to be a competent workman to enable him to be classed in either of these grades. If first, he should receive first-class pay; if second or third, let him only receive pay in proportion.

YADKIN.

FOREMAN TOBACCO FACTORY.—I work 10 hours per day at $1 per day. Have four in family. Am paid weekly in cash. Have not accumulated anything.

CHAPTER II.

MISCELLANEOUS EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Capital and labor are the two factors in the production of wealth, and the interests of the two are reciprocal. Whenever the rights of one are considered, the rights of the other should be considered also. Intelligence as to the rights of both is only obtained in this way. Appreciating this fact, the Bureau sent out at the same time that it sent blanks to employees, general and special blanks to the employers of the State, whose addresses could be obtained. The information which was received from the general blanks sent to employers, is contained in this chapter, and embraces data received from a considerable number of industries. The information, both in the table (No. 3) and the remarks which follow, will be found under the head of the county from which it comes.

The tone of the reports received from employers indicates a hopeful spirit, and seems to represent that the manufacturing enterprises of the State are flourishing. It is certain that manufacturing is very fast developing in the State, the ratio of increase being greater than our people are perhaps aware. There is no reason why this should not be so. No State offers superior natural advantages in a manufacturing way. The water power of the State is almost unlimited, and is well distributed in every section. The very best woods are to be found for manufacturing purposes; perhaps no State offers a better variety, or a greater abundance. Our mineral wealth is also unsurpassed—in fact, North Carolina is wealthier, materially, under the ground than she is on top. Cotton is grown in five-eighths of the area of the State, while tobacco may be raised in every county, some sections growing the finest quality known to the world. These and other natural advantages mark North Carolina as a State well suited to manufacturing, and the development of the State in this respect, in recent years, would seem to indicate that this fact is being appreciated, not only by our own people, but by those outside of the State. More capital is being invested in North Carolina now than

ever before. Corporations for manufacturing our raw material are daily being formed and new industries are constantly being started, so that the future is bright for North Carolina as a manufacturing State. The census of 1880 showed that there was twice as much capital invested in the principal manufactories of the State as there was in 1870. Doubtless the census of 1890 will show even a greater ratio of increase. The indications are decidedly that way. This prosperity in manufacturing means a greater prosperity in every other direction, and will be recognized as the harbinger of a new and better era, in which the State will be greater in every respect than she has ever been before. The weakness of North Carolina in the past has been peculiarly upon this point. The State has been too exclusively agricultural. Very little, comparatively, has been produced for sale by our people, except the products of the farm; and the products that have been sold from the farms have, in certain lines and to a considerable extent, made the State poorer instead of richer. The wealth of the State must come through mechanical and manufacturing channels, and not through the products of the farm; the history of the past abundantly proves that fact. The increase, therefore, of manufactories in our midst is an evidence of the present and coming prosperity of the State.

Notwithstanding, however, the increase of manufacturing in North Carolina, it may still be said that the State is overwhelmingly agricultural, and will be for years to come. A majority of the counties report that there are no mechanical or manufacturing enterprises carried on in them, except such as are carried on in every agricultural community for supplying neighborhood demands, as wagon shops, blacksmith shops, and the like. In a great many of these counties the sawing of lumber is represented as a most important industry, but the business is only temporary from its nature, and cannot represent future stability or progress. The lumber is shipped elsewhere to be manufactured.

The counties which are so backward in manufacturing are, of course, the least wealthy counties; and, on the other hand, the counties in which manufacturing is most developed are the wealthiest counties. Wherever manufactories are to be found, centres of population are also found, and these increase the value of the soil and the products of the soil. That community is therefore wise

which fosters the increase of manufactures, because they are the means of the prosperity of all classes.

It should be remembered that while North Carolina is making rapid progress in manufacturing, yet her industries cannot in all respects compete with older and wealthier enterprises in other sections of the country. Whenever questions between labor and capital arise, this should not be forgotten. North Carolina's chief aim should be to increase the number of manufactures in her borders—an end to which the employer, as well as employee, should strive for with wise consideration as to the rights of each.

But few contests between labor and capital in the State have come to the knowledge of the Bureau since its establishment, and it is believed that the employers of the State, for the most part, are disposed to be just to their employees, and it is of the utmost importance that they should be, so that conflicts should be avoided—so far as they are concerned. A just statement as to the rights of labor and capital will surely bring about a feeling of amity and concord between them, because it will create a healthy public sentiment as to the rights of each. This the Bureau will at all times undertake to give in the information which it publishes.

The employers' blank was sent to all the counties of the State. Some few did not report because they had nothing to report, and a few others did not report doubtless because they were not interested in the work which the Bureau has in hand. Still, employers reported in nearly all the counties, and what has been said by them in our general blank is given in this chapter. Information as to special industries is given in other chapters.

TABLE No. 3.—SHOWING MECHANICAL BUSINESS, other than Cotton and Value Product for the year, number of Men, Women or other em-

COUNTIES.	BUSINESS.	Mo'ths ope. p'st y'r	Capital employed.	Value Product for the year.	Paid for labor during year.	Greatest No. em-pl'yed during year.	Average number men.	Women.	Child'n und. 15 y'rs	Child'n und. 12 y'rs
Alamance.										
	Planing and Saw Mill	12	$10,000	$24,000	$ 4,800	30	18	..	..	..
Anson.										
	Steam Mill	10	3,000	2,000	400	....	....	..	..	..
	Saw Mill	8	2,000	5,000	750	....	....	..	..	..
	Building Contractor	11	4,000	.....	1,000	7	6	..	1	..
Alexander.										
	Saw Mill	12	3,000	3,000	5,500	6	6	..	..	..
Beaufort.										
	Steam Saw Mill	10	5,000	5,000	1,600	11	10	..	1	..
Bertie.										
	Carriage Making	12	5,000	7,000	3,000	9	5	..	3	..
	Saw Mill	10	3,000	4,000	700	6	5	..	1	..
Brunswick.										
	Piloting and Fishing Co.	12	75,000	80,000	20,000	150	100	35	15	..
Buncombe.										
	Building Contractor	12	7,000	30,000	9,000	60	35	1	..	..
	Building Contractor	8	3,000	4,500	1,500	11	6	..	..	..
	Broom Factory	6	5,000	2,000	1,000	5	2	3	..	..
Burke.										
	Steam Saw Mill	10	3,000	5,000	9,000	6	6	..	..	..
Cabarrus.										
	Spoke and Handle Mfr.	10	3,000	10,000	1,000	8	....	..	..	..
Caldwell										
	Saw Mill	9	4,000	4,000	700	4	4	1	..	..
Carteret.										
	Fish and Oil Factory	8	25,000	17,000	2,500	34	....	..	..	..
	Saw Mill and Lumber	12	15,000	.....	.....	16	8	4	4	..
Catawba.										
	Saw Mill	10	8,000	19,000	2,700	10	8	2	.	..
Chatham.										
	Shuttle Blocks	11	10,000	10,000	2,000	12	10	..	..	..
	Sash, Door and Blind	12	3,000	.....	800	3	....	..	..	..
	F'ndry and Machine Sh'p	12	1,800	2,277	2,190	12	8	..	..	..
Cherokee.										
	Saw Mill	9	3,000	3,000	500	....	....	..	..	..
Chowan.										
	Carriage Builder	12	1,000	2,500	1,000	6	3	..	..	..
	Saw Mill	10	2,500	4,000	1,000	5	3	..	2	..
Cleveland.										
	Tannery and Harness	12	3,500	6,000	900	6	6	..	..	..
	Mill and Wood Shop	12	9,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
Columbus.										
	Saw Mill & Naval Stores	12	3,000	8,000	1,500	40	10	10	10	8
	Shingle Mill	12	7,000	4,000	3,000	20	15	4	1	..
	Turpentine Distillery	12	5,000	20,000	10,000	42	25	2	10	10
Craven.										
	R. R. Repair Shops	12	.....	.....	17,000	35	35	..	..	..
	Boiler Manufacturer	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..

TOBACCO INTEREST, REPORTING TO THIS BUREAU, WITH CAPITAL INVESTED, PLOYEES, RATE OF PAY, HOURS OF WORK, &c., ARRANGED BY COUNTIES.

AVERAGE EARNINGS.														
Per day for men skilled.	Per day for men unskill'd.	Per day for women skill'd.	Per day for wom'n unsk'ld	Per day for children.	No. hours for day's work.	Are wages paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. wages increased per year.	Per cent. wages decreased per y'ar.	Do employees usually attend religious services.	What per cent. can read and write.	Per cent. children employees read and write.	Per cent. live in their own homes.	How many save a p't of their earn'gs	Is the educational, moral and financ'l condition of employees better than 3 years ago.
$1 25	$ 75	---	---	---	10½	week	---	---	yes	100	------	50	50	better.
---	---	---	---	---	---	------	---	---	------	---	------	---	---	----------
1 25	75	---	---	---	11	week	---	---	yes	75	------	50	---	better.
1 00	75	---	---	---	12	week	---	---	yes	50	------	75	25	same.
1 25	65	---	---	---	12	week	---	---	part	50	------	25	---	better.
1 75	1 00	---	---	75	10	week	---	---	yes	100	100	25	50	better.
1 25	1 00	---	---	40	12	week	---	---	yes	50	100	50	25	better.
1 75	50	70	30	25	10	week	---	---	yes	66	66	20	25	better.
2 25	95	---	---	---	10	week	12½	---	yes	75	8	16	10	same.
2 00	1 25	---	---	---	10	week	25	---	yes	100	---	33	50	better.
1 66	75	---	---	50	10	week	---	---	yes	100	100	---	all	good.
1 25	75	---	---	---	12	mo'th	---	---	yes	50	------	25	---	better.
-----	75	---	---	---	12	week	---	---	yes	50	------	25	---	better.
1 00	70	---	---	25	12	mo'th	---	---	yes	---	---	---	---	better.
-----	1 00	---	---	---	---	mo'th	---	---	yes	80	------	100	---	better.
1 25	50	---	40	25	12	mo'th	---	---	yes	90	100	5	---	same.
1 00	75	---	---	30	11	mo'th	---	---	part	50	100	25	10	better.
1 25	90	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	------	---	------	---	---	----------
-----	65	---	---	---	10	------	---	---	------	---	------	---	---	----------
1 00	60	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	yes	80	------	---	---	better.
1 00	60	---	---	---	12	mo'th	---	---	------	---	------	---	---	better.
1 50	75	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	yes	75	------	50	50	better.
1 25	60	---	---	25	12	mo'th	---	---	------	---	------	---	---	----------
90	---	---	---	---	13	mo'th	---	---	yes	100	------	---	100	better.
1 25	50	---	---	---	10	mo'th	---	---	yes	100	------	50	20	better.
1 50	60	---	50	35	10	week	---	---	yes	66	50	10	---	better.
---	75	---	45	25	10	week	---	---	yes	50	------	50	---	better.
1 25	75	---	35	15	10	week	---	---	yes	66	50	33	20	same.
2 25	90	---	---	---	10	mo'th	---	---	yes	90	------	33	40	better.
1 50	---	---	---	---	8	week	---	---	------	---	------	---	---	----------

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	BUSINESS.	Mo'ths ope. p'st y'r	Capital employed.	Value product for the year.	Paid for labor during year.	Greatest No. emp'yed during year.	Average number men.	Women.	Child'n und. 15 y'rs	Child'n und. 12 y'rs
Currituck.										
	Saw Mill	12	5,000	9,000	1,100	7	6	..	..	..
Davidson.										
	Mf'r Agrl Implements	12	4,000	....	.....	8	5	..	..	..
	F'ndry and Mach. Shops	12	10,000	.....	4,000	10	9	..	1	..
Davie.										
	Furniture Manufacturer	12	600	.....	.....	3	1	..	..	..
Duplin.										
	Saw Mill	9	4,000	5,000	790	4	4	..	..	..
Durham.										
	Capitalist	10	100,000	.....	11,041	116	48	..	..	..
	Bobbin and Shuttle Mills	10	60,000	.....	.....	75	45		4	1
Edgecombe.										
	Carriage Maker	12	10,000	10,000	3,400	10	..	..	..	..
	Harness Maker	12	800	3,000	.....	..	2	..	..	..
	F'ndry and Mac. Shops	12	6,000	6,000	1,200	8	6	..	..	..
Forsyth.										
	Sash, Doors and Blinds	..	..	90,000	15,983	87	74	..	2	..
	Wagon Manufacturer	12	40,000	40,000	18,000	50	..	..	..	..
Gates.										
	Saw and Grist Mill	12	25,000	50,000	2,000	20	13	1	15	..
	Coach Maker	12	10,000	4,000	2,000	20	13	..	..	..
Graham.										
	Saw Mill	12	4,500	5,000	800	4	4	..	..	..
Guilford.										
	Shuttle Blocks & Spokes	12	30,000	75,000	20,000	80	50	..	10	..
	Nursery	12	30,000	....	7,000	60	30	..	..	..
	Carriage Manufacturer	12	600	1,700	900	4	....	..	..	..
Haywood.										
	Lumber Business	12	10,000	50,000	7,000	40	25	..	..	..
Henderson.										
	Contractors, Build'rs, &c	12	50,000	25,000	10,000	100	....	..	..	..
	Furniture, &c	10	2,500	2,500	950	6	....	..	..	..
Hertford.										
	Saw Mill	12	3,000	5,000	900	4	....	..	..	..
Hyde.										
	Saw Mill	12	15,000	18,000	4,000	....	16	..	..	..
Iredell.										
	Machine Shop	12	2,000	4,000	900	....	....	..	..	..
Jackson.										
	Builders and Contract'rs	8	4,000	.....	3,500	63	22	..	..	..
Johnston.										
	Saw Mill, &c	12	20,000	25,000	5,000	30	15	10	5	..
Jones.										
	Wagon Manufacturer	12	800	1,500	200	8	2	..	..	..
	Saw and Grist Mill	12	15,000	4,000	1,500	35	10	7	..	..
Lincoln.										
	Merch't Mills and Lumb'r	12	50,000	....	.....	....	6	3	..	..
	Mach. Shops and F'ndry	12	10,000	15,000	3,500	....	20	12	2	..

3.—CONTINUED.

AVERAGE EARNINGS.					No. hours for day's work.	Are wages paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. wages increased per year.	Per cent. wages decreased per y'ar.	Do employees usually attend religious services.	What per cent. can read and write.	Per cent. children employees read and write.	Per cent. live in their own homes.	How many save p't of their earnings.	Is the educational, moral and financ'l condition of employees better than 3 years ago.
Per day for men skilled.	Per day for men unskill'd.	Per day for women skill'd.	Per day for wom'n unsk'ld	Per day for children.										
$1 25	$ 65	$ ...	$ ...	$ ...	12	mo'th	...	...	yes	50	.....	50	...	.....
1 25	60	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	yes	100	.....	25	25	.....
1 50	...	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	yes	100	100	50	...	.....
1 00	75	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	yes	100	.....	...	...	better.
1 00	75	...	...	...	12	week	...	...	partly	50	.....	25	...	.....
1 45	60	...	...	...	9	week	...	...	yes	50	.....	50	25	better
2 50	75	...	...	30	10	s'm-m	5	...	yes	90	60	5	25	better.
1 66	80	...	...	..	10	week	...	...	partly	100	.....	33	10	same.
1 25	...	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	.....	...	.....	50	...	.....
1 00	50	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	partly	50	.....	16	...	better.
1 25	75	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	yes	66	.....	33	40	better.
1 50	85	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	yes	100	.....	33	25	better.
1 50	60	...	40	35	8	week	...	...	yes	66	... ...	20	10	better.
1 50	75	...	...	...	10	mo'th	...	...	yes	10	.....	10	33	better.
1 00	75	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	yes	50	... ...	100	...	same.
.....	1 00	...	...	75	10	s'm'm	...	...	50	75	100	33	...	better.
75	60	...	...	50	12	mo'th	...	...	... ...	...	...	...	...	better.
1 00	30	...	...	...	10	mo'th	...	...	yes	66	.....	25	...	better.
3 00	1 00	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	partly	100	.....	20	20	better.
1 50	75	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	yes	75	.....	33	33	better.
1 50	60	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	part	100	.....	16	16	better.
1 25	...	...	...	...	12	week	...	...	yes	...	.....	...	...	.....
1 50	1 00	...	...	...	10½	day	...	...	half	75	.....	...	...	better.
1 25	60	...	...	...	10	week	...	...	partly	100	.....	75	50	better.
2 00	75	...	...	...	11	week	...	...	yes	...	.....	...	...	same.
2 50	75	...	50	25	10	week	...	...	yes	50	50	50	...	better.
1 00	50	...	...	...	12	day	25	...	yes	50	.....	...	12	better.
1 25	40	...	35	...	10	day	...	...	yes	10	.....	...	...	same.
1 50	50	...	...	...	10	mo'th	...	...	yes	75	.....	66	...	better.
2 00	75	...	...	...	10	mo'th	...	...	yes	66	100	...	50	better.

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	BUSINESS.	Mo'ths ope.p'st y'r.	Capital employed.	Value product for the year.	Paid for labor during year.	Greatest No. em-pl'yed during year.	Average number men.	Women.	Child'n und.15 y'rs	Child'n und.12 y'rs
McDowell.										
	Gold Mining	10	500,000		5,000		40	20	1	
	Saw Mill	11	4,000		1,100		5			
Macon.										
	Mining	12	5,000		2,100	40	30			
	Mining	12	150,000			100	20			
	Saw Mill	10	3,000	4,000	700	4	4			
Madison.										
	Lumber Business	9	4,000	10,000		10				
Martin.										
	Saw Mill									
Mecklenburg.										
	Lumber Business	6	4,600	985	430	80	5			
	Furniture Manufact'rs	12	20,000	30,000	12,000	58	36	6	8	8
	Iron Works	12	50,000	110,000	30,000	93	80			
	Sash, Doors and Blinds	12	8,000	15,000	7,000	40	20			
Mitchell.										
	Iron and Lumber	12	12,000		12,000			15		
	Mica Mining	12								
Montgomery.										
	Lumber Business	12	20,000				12	3	10	2
	Naval Stores	12	10,000	20,000			15	3	3	
Moore.										
	Mining	9	1,000		2,000		3		2	
	Sash, Doors and Blinds	12	8,000		3,000		8		3	
	Found'rs and Machinists	12	2 000		2,000		3			
Nash.										
	Saw Mill	12	3,000	2,000	500		3			
New Hanover										
	Building Contractor	12				25				
	Naval Stores	12	7,000	76,900	3,423	31	20			
Northampton.										
	Coach Maker	12	1,000	2,000	400	3	3			
	Steam Merchant Mills		5,000	4,000	2,000	15	8			
Orange.										
	Lumber Business	12	3,000	4,500	950		4			
Pamlico.										
	Saw Mill	10				25				
Pasquotank.										
	Merchandising	12						8		
	Cotton Seed Oil Mill	12				30	25		5	
	Seine Twine Factory	12	23,000	20,000	3,400	25	2	10	6	3
	Saw Mill	12	15,000	100,000	4,000	7	6	5		
	Planing Mill	9	2,000	8,000	1,500	12	8	6		
Person.										
	Brick Maker	12	3,000	15,000	10,000	75	37	25	10	
	Merchant Mill	12	12,000		1,600	35	16		6	
	Saw Mill	12	8,000							

3.—CONTINUED.

AVERAGE EARNINGS.					No hours for day's work.	Are wages paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. wages increased per year.	Per cent. wages decreased per y'ar.	Do employees usually attend religious services.	What per cent. can read and write.	Per cent. children employees read and write.	Per cent. live in their own homes.	How many save p't of their earnings.	Is the educational, moral and financ'l condition of employees better than 3 years ago.
Per day for men skilled.	Per day for men unskill'd.	Per day for women skill'd.	Per day for wom'n unsk'ld	Per day for children.										
$3 00	1 00	$---	$---	$---	10	mo'th	---	25	yes	50	---	33	100	better.
1 00	70	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1 25	90	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	yes	50	---	100	100	better.
4 00	75	---	---	---	11	mo'th	---	---	yes	---	---	---	---	better.
1 00	65	---	---	---	12	mo'th	---	---	partly	100	---	50	---	better.
1 50	75	---	---	---	10	mo'th	25	---	yes	100	---	---	50	better.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1 25	60	---	60	---	10	week	---	---	yes	50	---	---	---	worse.
1 75	1 00	---	50	40	10	week	---	---	yes	100	100	---	100	---
2 00	---	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	yes	95	---	25	50	same.
1 50	75	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	partly	66	---	25	25	same.
---	1 00	---	---	---	10	s'm'm	---	---	yes	80	---	90	50	better.
---	75	---	---	---	12	week	---	---	yes	20	25	---	20	better.
1 50	60	---	40	25	10	day	---	---	yes	66	100	25	25	better.
1 00	---	---	50	---	12	mo'th	---	---	yes	25	100	---	25	better.
2 00	50	---	---	25	10	week	---	---	yes	100	100	---	---	better.
1 50	60	---	---	---	10	week	5	---	yes	60	75	4	3	better.
2 00	40	---	---	---	12	mo'th	---	---	yes	75	---	---	100	better.
1 00	70	---	---	---	12	mo'th	---	---	yes	50	---	---	---	---
2 00	1 25	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	yes	100	---	50	---	better.
2 00	1 00	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	yes	50	---	50	20	better.
1 25	1 00	---	---	---	10	mo'th	---	---	yes	75	---	66	---	better.
1 25	50	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	yes	50	---	25	---	better.
1 00	60	---	---	---	12	mo'th	---	---	yes	---	---	---	---	better.
---	75	---	40	25	10	day	---	---	yes	75	---	20	20	better.
1 25	1 00	---	---	---	---	week	---	---	yes	100	---	---	---	same.
2 00	1 00	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	partly	50	---	20	---	same.
2 00	1 00	---	50	33	10	week	---	---	yes	100	100	25	---	same.
1 42	1 17	---	---	---	12	week	---	---	yes	33	---	33	---	better.
1 50	1 00	---	---	---	12	week	---	---	yes	50	---	20	---	same.
1 00	40	---	---	20	10	week	---	---	yes	50	25	10	10	better.
1 00	50	---	---	---	10	week	---	---	yes	50	---	---	---	better.
---	40	---	25	---	10	week	---	---	yes	---	---	---	10	same.

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	BUSINESS.	Mo'ths ope.p'st y'r.	Capital employed.	Value product for the year.	Paid for labor during year.	Greatest No. em-pl'yed during year.	Average number men.	Women.	Child'n und. 15 y'rs	Child'n und. 12 y'rs
Pitt.										
	Iron Works	12	2,000	2,000	.....	10	7	..	..	..
	Agricultural Implem'ts.	12	.....	.....	.....	....	....	..	..	..
Randolph.										
	Pine Lumber	12	2,000	2,000	1,000	10	8	..	..	..
	General Wood Work	..	.....	.....	.....	5	3	..	2	..
	Tanners	12	15,000	6,750	1,500	5	4	..	..	..
	Spokes and Shuttle Bl'ks	9	3,000	.....	764	5	5	..	..	..
Robeson.										
	Lumber Business	8	4,000	9,000	1,200	18	9	..	..	..
Rockingham.										
	Woolen Mills	11	210,000	135,000	26,000	169	30	99	16	14
Sampson.										
	Saw Mill	6	12,000	9,000	4,000	5	4	..	..	..
Stanly.										
	Steam Saw Mill	12	2,000	10,000	1,800	9	7	..	..	..
	Turpentine Manufact'r	12	800	1,500	300	1	1	..	..	..
	Cabinet Maker	12	1,000	.....	175	1	1	..	..	..
	Saw Mill	4	1,000	300	100	3	1	..	..	..
	Wagon Maker	12	1,000	300	150	3	1	..	..	..
Stokes.										
	Lumber Business	6	4,000	2,500	600	4	3	..	..	..
Surry.										
	Wagons and Lumber	12	2,500	1,200	500	15	8	..	..	..
	Saw Mill	9	3,000	.....	.....	....	3	..	..	..
Swain.										
	Merchant Mill	12	2,000	.....	500	4	....	..	..	..
	Talc and Marble Mining.	1	12,000	.....	.....	40	..	..	..	..
Transylvania										
	Distiller	12	8,000	.....	.....	4	4	..	..	..
	Saw Mill	8	3,000	6,000	1,000	...	4	..	..	..
Tyrrell.										
	Lumber Business	9	4,000	3,000	900	....	5	..	..	..
Wake.										
	Clothing Manufacturer	11	25,000	.....	.....	40	....	40	..	..
	Nursery	12	10,000	10,000	8,000	35	20	..	..	..
	Shoe Manufactory	12	20,000	60,000	15,000	40	30	3	..	..
	Builders and Contractors	12	45,000	52,762	10,720	50	....	..	..	..
	Candy Manufacturer	12	.....	.....	.....	18	6	4	2	..
	F'ndry and Mach. Shops	12	5,000	8,000	.....	....	8	..	..	..
	Printers and Binders	12	20,000	30,000	15,000	40	15	8	7	..
Washington.										
	Engine & Mach. Works	12	15,000	10,000	....	10	10	..	..	..
	Steam Saw Mill	10	4,000	6,000	1,400	....	4	..	..	..
Watauga.										
	Lumber Business	12	4,500	4,000	900	....	3	..	1	..
Wayne.										
	Carriage Maker	12	2,000	4,500	1,250	6	5	..	..	..
	Saw Mill	..	4,000	3,500	900	....	5	..	..	..

3.—CONTINUED.

AVERAGE EARNINGS.					No. hours for day's work.	Are wages paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. wages increased per year.	Per cent. wages decreased per y'ar.	Do employees usually attend religious services.	What per cent. can read and write.	Per cent. children employees read and write.	Per cent. live in their own homes.	How many save p't of their earnings.	Is the educational, moral and financ'l condition of employees better than 3 years ago.
Per day for men skilled.	Per day for men unskill'd.	Per day for women skill'd.	Per day for wom'n unskl'd	Per day for children.										
$1 75	80	$...	$...	$...	10	week	10	...	yes	100	.....	15	....	better.
1 00	50	....	....	....	10	week	....	....	yes	100	.....	....	....	better.
1 50	65	....	....	....	10	mo'th	....	....	yes	100	.....	....	25	better.
1 25	75	....	....	40	10	week	....	...	yes	100	100	33	....	better.
1 50	85	....	....	....	10	week	....	....	yes	25	.....	25	25	better.
.....	60	....	....	....	10	week	....	....	yes	....	.....	50	20	worse.
1 25	65	....	....	....	11	mo'th	....	10	yes	66	.....	75	...	same.
2 00	85	50	38	25	11⅓	week	....	....	yes	100	.....	25	12½	better.
2 00	70	....	....	....	12	day	....	....	yes	50	.....	50	75	better.
1 00	75	....	....	....	12	mo'th	....	....	partly	50	.....	25	...	.....
1 50	60	....	....	....	12	mo'th	....	....	yes	50	.....	50	....	.....
1 50	....	....	....	....	10	week	....	....	yes	100	.....	100	100	.....
1 00	75	....	....	30	10	mo'th	....	....	yes	100	.....	100	....	.....
.....	75	....	....	....	10	mo'th	....	....	yes	100	.....	100	100	.....
1 00	65	....	....	....	12	mo'th	....	....	partly	....	.....	...	....	better.
1 00	60	....	....	....	10	mo'th	5	...	yes	100	.....	100	100	better.
1 00	65	....	....	....	12	week	....	....	yes	25	.....	....	....	same.
.....	50	....	....	....	10	day	....	....	yes	50	.....	....	....	better.
1 00	50	....	50	25	....	.....	....	....	no	20	.....	....	25	better.
.....	75	....	....	....	10	day	....	....	yes	50	.....	....	...	better.
1 00	80	....	....	....	12	mo'th	....	....	partly	50	.....	....	....	same.
1 50	75	....	....	....	12	mo'th	....	....	yes	25	.....	....	....	better.
.....	....	50	....	....	....	.....	....	....	yes	100	.....	....	....	.....
1 50	50	....	....	....	12	week	....	20	yes	80	.....	50	....	worse.
1 75	80	....	....	....	10	week	10	....	yes	100	.....	16	....	better.
1 75	75	....	....	....	10	mo'th	10	....	yes	50	.....	20	33	better.
1 50	....	....	25	25	10	week	....	....	no	100	.....	16	....	better.
1 66	75	....	....	....	10	week	....	....	yes	80	.....	....	....	same.
2 33	75	75	50	....	10	week	....	....	yes	100	.....	20	10	better.
2 00	80	....	....	....	10	week	....	....	yes	100	.....	10	10	better.
1 25	65	....	....	....	12	mo'th	....	....	partly	....	.....	....	....	better.
1 00	75	....	....	....	12	mo'th	....	....	yes	25	.....	....	....	same.
2 00	1 00	....	....	....	10	week	....	....	yes	100	.....	33	33	better.
1 00	75	....	....	....	11	week	....	....	yes	50	.....	50	....	better.

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	BUSINESS.	Mo'ths ope. p'st y'r.	Capital employed.	Value product for the year.	Paid for labor during year.	Greatest No. em-pl'yed during year.	Average number men.	Women.	Child'n und. 15 y'rs	Child'n und. 12 y'rs
Wilson.										
	Foundry	12	6,000	10,000	8,000	9	7	--	--	--
	Contractor and Builder.	6	4,000	14,000	------	----	----	--	--	--
	Buggy Maker	12	2,000	35,000	8,500	23	16	--	--	--
Yadkin.										
	Lumber Business	12	3,000	------	------	10	----	--	--	--
	Sash, Doors and Blinds.	3	5,000	------	------	15	----	--	--	--
Yancey.										
	Wagon Maker	12	10,000	4,000	2,500	----	5	2	2	--
	Mica Mining	12	------	------	------	40	----	--	--	--

3.—CONTINUED.

AVERAGE EARNINGS.													
Per day for men skilled.	Per day for men unskill'd.	Per day for women skil'd.	Per day for wom'n unsk'ld	Per day for children.	No. hours for day's work.	Are wages paid by day, week or month.	Per cent. wages increased per year.	Per cent. wages decreased per y'ar.	Do employees usually attend religious services.	What per cent. can read and write.	Per cent. children employees read and write.	Per cent. live in their own homes.	How many save p't of their earnings.	Is the educational, moral and financ'l condition of employees better than 3 years ago.
$1 50	$ 80	$---	$---	$---	10	week	----	---	yes	75	------	50	100	better.
2 00	75	---	----	----	10	week	----	----	yes	100	------	----	----	better.
2 00	1 00	----	---	----	10	week	----	----	yes	100	------	----	33	better.
-----	75	----	----	----	12	day	---	15	------	75	------	25	25	better.
1 00	75	----	----	----	11	week	----	15	yes	75	------	25	25	better.
1 00	60	----	40	20	10	day	----	----	yes	50	50	----	50	better.
1 00	50	----	----	----	10	mo'th	----	25	no	75	------	----	----	worse.

VIEWS OF EMPLOYERS.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE BUREAU ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS FROM EMPLOYERS IN THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES OF THE STATE.

ALAMANCE.

COTTON MILLS.—We pay cash. Hands mostly inexperienced. Prefer not to employ children under twelve years. Employees seem to be satisfied. Church building on grounds of company, built and furnished at their expense. Other churches near. Schools good, but rather far for regular attendance in winter. Morals of the place equal to any in the State.

SAW AND PLANING MILLS.—Capital employed $10,000. Total product for the year $24,000. Paid for labor $4,800. Employ eighteen men, and pay $1.25 to 75 cents per day of 10½ hours. Pay weekly. Half of employees live in their own homes, and part of them save part of their earnings. The educational, moral and financial condition of working people is improving.

ALEXANDER.

MANUFACTURERS COTTON.—Capital employed $15,000. Value of product for year $12,000. Employ eight men, seventeen women and three children. Pay skilled workmen $1.50 per day. Other men 75 cents, women 33⅓, children 25 cents. 11 hours. No charge to employees for rent or fuel. Labor abundant, but not reliable or efficient.

ANSON.

J. E. E.—I would be glad to see some movement made to stop the public schools from receiving support by taxation. The system is wrong. It makes people idle and careless about schooling their children as they should. They do not appreciate the free schools. There is a general outcry against the system in this section, and I think it should be done away with.

SAW-MILLING.—People are generally hard run. They can just make ends meet. Some few hold their own. The general condition of the country is bad. We do a very good business, however, milling, especially in summer season.

BERTIE.

CARRIAGE MAKER.—Capital employed $5,000. Value of product for year $7,000. Average number of hands employed eight—men five, youths three. Wages of skilled men $1.75, youths 75 cents. 10 hours day's work. Pay weekly in cash. I think the educational, moral and financial condition of working people is improving in this county.

W. J. C.—Labor is in demand in this county at an advanced rate, owing to the demand for it from the railroads now being constructed through this county.

BRUNSWICK.

MERCHANDISING, PILOTING AND FISHING COMPANY.—Capital employed $75,000. Value of product $80,000. Paid for labor during year $20,000. One hundred men, thirty-five women, thirty-five youths employed. Wages for men 50 cents to $1.75 per day. Women 30 cents to 70 cents per day. Youths 25 cents. Work 10 hours. Pay hands as desired. Wages have not increased or decreased the past year. Two-thirds of employees read and write, and a few of them save part of their earnings and live in houses of their own. The condition of working people in this county is improving.

BUNCOMBE.

BUILDING CONTRACTOR.—While wages are much better here now than before the railroad was built, but outdoor workmen have to lose considerable time on account of inclement weather, and poor men have a bad chance to educate their children. No public school at all. Many of my employees spend much of their wages for drink.

CONTRACTOR.—The most serious drawback to labor in this community is the saloon. There are so many of them that cannot withstand the temptations of the saloon after their day's work is done. The prohibition of the liquor traffic would be an unmistakable blessing to this class of our people, as well as all other classes.

BROOM MANUFACTORY.—The morals of the working classes are far better than at the North. Most of them, if not all, read and write, are industrious and economical, and those in my employ save a part of their wages. This is the only attempt that has yet been made to manufacture brooms in the State for a regular business, and is working under some very discouraging circumstances. Though there are 112 known varieties of wood in this State, I have to buy my broom handles in New York, St. Louis or Chicago. Wire from Cleveland, Ohio, &c. The land is capable of producing excellent broom corn, but so far the effort to produce it of proper quality has failed, all for want of proper care and work.

CABARRUS.

COTTON MANUFACTURING CO.—We pay skilled labor $2.00 per day; unskilled 75 cents; skilled women $1.00; children 25 cents. Work 69 hours per week. We maintain a day school for our employees' children, and employ no child under twelve years that cannot read and write. There is a Sunday school here attended by nearly all our employees and their children.

CARTERET.

MENHADEN OIL AND FISH SCRAP COMPANY.—Capital employed $25,000. Value of product for the year $17,000 sold and several thousand dollars' worth not yet sold. Paid out for labor during year $2,500. Thirty-four men employed. Besides the men employed by us by the month, we have about forty others who fish for us. We furnish boats, nets, &c., and buy the fish from them. Our time for work is very irregular. Sometimes very busy and then idle, it depends on the catch of fish. We have several men employed a large portion of their time building vessels and boats for us. Within five years we have built two

steamers, a schooner, and many small boats. Ship carpenters receive from $1.25 to $1.75 per day.

CHATHAM.

MANUFACTURING SHUTTLE BLOCKS.—In full operation 11 months past year, value of product $10,000. Paid for labor $2,000; capital employed $10,000. Employ 10 men at from 90 to $1.25 per day, 10 hours day's work, pay weekly.

CARPENTERS' SUPPLIES.—Capital employed $3,000, paid for labor for the year $800, paid 65 cents per day of 10 hours. Employ 3 hands.

FOUNDERS AND MACHINISTS.—Capital employed $1,800. Value of product $2,277. Paid for labor $2,190. Employ 8 men at 60 cents per pay for ordinary labor and $1.00 for skilled, 10 hours. Pay weekly. Two-thirds employees read and write, none of them save anything. In regard to their educational and moral condition I will say, I think it is improving.

CHOWAN.

CARRIAGE BUSINESS.—We do only a small business and employ only few hands. We pay skilled workmen $1.50 per day, unskilled labor 75 cents, 10 hours constitute a day's work and wages are paid by the week in cash. The moral condition of our employees is improving and they all save part of their earnings; they are pretty well advanced in education and are a sober, sensible lot of men, who do not spend their time nor their money foolishly, but put it to good use.

CLEVELAND.

MANUFACTURERS CARPET WARP.—Capital employed $30,000. Value product for year $28,600. Paid for labor $2,500. We employ 26 hands, mostly people who had no trade or regular occupation until they came here to work. We pay skilled labor $1.25, unskilled men 65, women 40, children 30 cents per day of 12 hours. They seem to be contented and happy. Being content to live well and caring nothing about laying up anything for the future. We furnish them with houses, gardens and pasturage for cow, etc., free. Living here is very cheap. Many who came here poorly clad, now have comfortable, decent dress, and but one family has left us in two years and they now want to come back.

TANNING, HARNESS AND SADDLE MANUFACTURERS.—Capital employed $3,500. Value of product for year $6,000. Paid for labor $900. We only employ six men and pay them an average of 90 cents per day for 13 hours' work. Pay monthly. We think the moral and educational condition of the working class is improving, but not financially; very few of them save any part of their earnings.

H. F. S.—The trouble about wages in this country is, as soon as a man can daub on a coat of paint, shoe a horse or stick a house together, he sets himself up as a workman and takes jobs or hires for half price of a master workman. We have but few men in the county who are masters of their trades. It is not fair to take the returns you will probably get of average prices paid jack-legs and publish them as the average prices paid to master workmen. I have built considerable and can hire plenty such for $1.00 per day, yet I prefer to hire good workman and pay them $2.00 when I can get him, as being the cheaper man of the two.

COLUMBUS.

MANUFACTURER NAVAL STORES.—Employ $3,000 capital; value of output for year $8,000. Total paid for labor during year $1,500. Men employed ten, women ten, youth ten, children eight. Wages, men 50 cents to $1.50; women 50 cents; children and youths 35 cents; work 10 hours and pay wages weekly in cash. We are fifty years behind in education. The colored race are making more progress in this respect than the whites.

MANUFACTURER NAVAL STORES.—Many of our best laborers leave this section every year, so that in many instances good hands cannot be had. We have to take the best we can get and pay for skilled $1.25 and unskilled 75 cents per day. If we do not do something to keep negro labor in North Carolina we shall soon be suffering for labor in the turpentine districts. Capital employed $5,000, value of product for year $20.000. Paid for labor during the year $10,000.

J. F. H.—There is no regular custom regulating the number of hours for a day's work, unless it has been to work from sun to sun, give two hours for rest at noon.

CRAVEN.

RAILROAD SHOPS.—Employ 33 men making and repairing railroad cars, for which we pay $2.25 for mechanics and 90 cents for laborers. Work 10 hours per day. Pay monthly. Twenty-nine read and write, eleven own their own homes and fourteen save part of their earnings. The educational, moral and financial condition of working men is better than three years ago.

DAVIDSON.

MANUFACTURERS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—Capital employed $4,000, and work five men. Ten hours a day's work. Pay weekly. Two own their homes and two save part of their earnings. Laborers all here want fewer hours of work and more pay. As a general rule they now work more than 10 hours and receive on an average $1.25 for skilled men and 60 cents for unskilled per day.

DURHAM.

CAPITALIST.—Besides my banking business I deal in live stock, brick, build my own houses, etc., at which I keep employed about $100,000 and forty-eight men. I pay skilled workmen $1.45 per day on an average and ordinary laborers an average of 58 cents per day, working 9 hours per day and pay weekly in cash.

WOOD AND WOOLEN MILLS.—The working people in this vicinity are steadily becoming more prosperous, owing, as I think, to the fact that they are being better educated and are learning to be skilled workmen or specialists in their various avocations. The relations existing here between the employers and employees are quite favorable indeed. No disturbances of any kind to impede the progress of our manufacturing town.

EDGECOMBE.

CARRIAGE-MAKER.—Capital employed, $10,000; value product for the year, $10,000; amount paid out for labor, $3,400. Employ nine men; pay $1.66 for

skilled men, 80 cents for unskilled. Work 10 hours, and pay wages weekly. All read and write. Three live in homes of their own, and one saves part of earnings. Financial, moral and educational condition of workingmen about same as three years ago.

IRON WORKS.—Capital employed, $6,000; value of product for year, $6,000; paid for labor during year, $1,200. Men employed, 6; wages 50 cents to $1 per day; 10 hours day's work; wages paid weekly. Half read and write; one lives in own home. Educational and moral condition better.

FORSYTHE.

MANUFACTURER OF CHEWING TOBACCO.—Our employees are nearly eighty per cent. colored, and for our work are generally better than the whites. They make from 50 cents per day for children to 75 cents for women, and as high as $1.25 for men, but they save about nothing, and consequently when dull season comes in winter, which lasts about three months, they are not prepared for it, and they suffer, unless we make advances to them, which we generally do.

CONTRACTORS, &C.—Many of our employees own homes of their own; nearly all do who have been with us any length of time. We encourage all to do this, believing this to be one of the best means to make men contented and steady. We pay for skilled labor $1.25, unskilled 78 cents, for 10 hours' work. Employees have regular work and are paid weekly.

WAGON MANUFACTORY.—Our business has been seriously hurt by so many wagons made by convicts being sent into the country. Their labor costs them almost nothing, ours being by far the largest expense. Nearly all the small shops in my section have been closed, and we think convict labor in other States the principal factor in it. We think our employees are in better condition in every way than ever before. We will not keep any man who gets drunk.

GASTON.

COTTON MILLS.—Capital employed, $55,000; value product for year, $60,000; paid for labor, $9,600. We employ about 75 hands—30 men, 30 women and 15 children. Wages for skilled men, $1.50 to $3 per day, unskilled 75 cents; women, skilled, 55 to 70 cents; unskilled 50 cents; children 35 cents. Pay weekly. We are very particular in the employment of labor; we will have no drinking person at any price, and if we get one by accident they don't stay long.

E. F. C.—We work from sun to sun in this county; if the work pushes, a little later. All have to do this if they make anything. There are some agitators who want little work and big pay—want to stop at regular hours, etc. My experience is, that the man who works as the boss requires always has a job and money in his pocket, while those who do not are out of a job half their time, always in debt, and not much to eat; yet they are always trying to keep honest labor in the same condition as themselves.

GATES.

SAW AND GRIST MILL.—Capital employed, $25,000; value of product for year, $50,000: paid for wages, $2,000. Employ 13 men, one woman and one youth. Pay men 60 cents to $1.50 per day, women 40 cents, youth 35 cents. Eight hours

a day's work. Pay weekly. In this community a high standard of morals and intelligence is maintained. The sale of liquor is prohibited, and a spirit of thrift and energy pervades the people; this is epecially so with the whites, and the blacks are very imitative.

COACH-MAKER AND MILL.—I think I can safely say that the laborers of this section lose at least two months each year going, as they say, to "meeting." Can't you pass a law regulating this "meeting" business? I have not been able to saw a line or work my coach business for the last two weeks, as my sawyers and blacksmith, who are negroes, "must go to meeting."

GRAHAM.

SAW MILL.—In my part of the county I am safe in saying that there are not more than one-half can read and write. They are financially poor. There are a great many who do not work enough to accumulate. The morals of the people seem to be good.

GUILFORD.

MANUFACTURER SHUTTLE-BLOCKS, &C.—Capital employed, $30,000; value of product for year, $75,000; paid for labor $20,000. I have a good lot of men in my employ, and I think they are satisfied with their wages and treatment, and are trying to save something, which I always encourage. There is a building and loan association just organized here, in which most of my men will take some stock. I employ about 50 men and 10 youths. Wages for men, $1; youths, 75 cents, for 10 hours. Pay twice a month. Three-fourths can read and write; one-third live in their own houses.

GENERAL NURSERY BUSINESS.—Capital employed, $30,000; paid for labor during year, $7,000. For skilled men I pay 75 cents per day; ordinary labor 60 cents. I employ an average of 30 men—sometimes 60. Until about three years ago most of my hands spent their time and money on Saturday nights in some bar-room. I saw it was ruining them, and I put a stop to it. I built a neat house, suitable for school-house, preaching, Sunday-school, club meetings, etc., and then made a rule that no man could remain in my employ who drank whiskey, or frequented bar-rooms, and I stood square by that rule; and now, for the past eighteen months, my employees attend church, Sunday-school, etc., and stay away from saloons; their children also attend day school. Now, out of ten or twelve families on my place, not a child over twelve but can read and write.

HAYWOOD.

LUMBER.—Capital employed, $10,000; value of product for year, $50,000; paid for labor during year, $7,000. Employ 25 men, at wages ranging from $1 for unskilled to $3 for skilled per day of 10 hours; wages paid weekly. All read and write; five live in own houses; six save part of earnings. The educational and moral condition better than three years ago.

HENDERSONVILLE.—We have no extensive manufactories, so I have given you a consolidated report of the different small shops and industries of the principal town. Labor and capital are not well proportioned in this county; there is an excess of labor. Financially and educationally they are improving in this

county, but I don't know that they are making much progress in morals. The improvement that would naturally follow the other virtues is retarded by the evil effects of whiskey; in fact, it is a very serious drawback to the financial and intelligent improvement of the people as well. The educational interest is well cared for in Henderson county.

HYDE.

SAW MILL.—Capital employed, $15,000; value of product for year, $18,000; paid for labor during year, $4,000. Employ 16 men, at wages ranging from $1 to $1.50 per day. Work 10½ hours per day, and pay wages daily. Three-fourths of employees read and write; none save anything. The greatest obstacle in the way of workingmen in this county is whiskey. There are two bar-rooms near me, and they do my men much harm. They not only spend much of their time at them, but much of their earnings also. The best thing the State could do for labor would be to banish liquor from our borders.

MERCHANT.—There is very little business carried on in this county that employs any labor, except farming. The labor and laboring class in this whole section is very common; they foster animosity toward those who are able and would assist them if they would deal honestly and fairly with them. The morals of the laboring class is growing worse every year. There is very little surplus capital in this county.

IREDELL.

R. & M.—The labor we employ is mostly colored; they are best suited for our business—they are less grasping, and are more disposed to accept wages that will leave some margin of profit for the manufacturer. If we were to raise the scale of wages now paid 10 per cent. it would consume three-fourths of our profit, competition has reduced profits to so small a margin. The most refractory element of our employees are the K. of L. They exact prices that are out of proportion to the services rendered.

IRON WORKS.—My opinion is that the laboring people in and around Statesville are improving morally, and would do so much faster but for the great tempter, whiskey, which is dealt out at almost every corner. I make it a rule in my business to allow no man to remain in my employ who drinks, even moderately, and I allow no swearing in or about my factory by my employees. I am free to say that I believe candidly, that the laboring class of people would be elevated much faster if all employers would adopt those two rules and strictly adhere to them. I find, after an experience of 21 years in the management of shops, that while a few will disobey these rules, a large majority will respect and obey them, if properly and kindly but firmly remonstrated with for any disobedience at first. My sympathy has ever been with the laborer, whom I think has been wantonly oppressed by monopolies and the greed of money kings, and I do sincerely hope that the day is not far distant when our workmen may be in a condition to live in their own homes and properly educate their children, and improve their own talent by reading proper literature; and to this end I bid the Bureau of Labor Statistics God-speed.

JACKSON.

BUILDING CONTRACTOR.—Employ 22 men at wages ranging from 75 cents for unskilled to $2.20 for the best. Paid out for labor past year $5,500. Work 10 to 11 hours per day, and pay weekly. Fourteen per cent. increase in wages past year.

LINCOLN.

MANUFACTURER FLOUR AND LUMBER.—The general condition of the working people is better than last year. They have kept out of debt and are working faithfully. We only employ three men, at wages of from 50 cents to $1.50 per day. Work 10 hours per day, and pay monthly. All can read; two save part of their earnings.

MACHINE-SHOP AND FOUNDRY.—Labor is uncertain, especially the so-called skilled labor; cause, such labor usually seeks employment in large towns or cities or with large corporations, even at reduced rate of wages. The only reliable employees are those that are men of families and are located in a home of their own. We have been running on full time the past year. Pay skilled men $2 per day; unskilled 75 cents. Total value of product for year, $15,000; paid out for labor $3,500.

M'DOWELL.

GOLD MINING.—Capital employed $500,000. Paid for labor during year $5,000. Average number men employed twenty. Wages $1.00 per day; for skilled mechanics in this business $3.00 per day. Work 10 hours and pay wages monthly. There has been a decrease of 25 per cent. in wages the past year. Half our employees can read and write. Seven live in own homes and all save part of their earnings. The educational, moral and financial condition of working people improving.

MACON.

MINING.—There are but few places where any considerable work is carried on the year round. The average price paid for miners is from 75 cents to $1.00 per day. No children are employed in this county, there being no factories. As a general thing children over ten years of age can read and write. No women are employed except as cooks and nurses. The people are generally moral, and most of the laboring people can read and write.

MADISON.

LUMBER DEALER.—Months in operation nine. Capital employed $4,000. Value of product for nine months $10,000. Men employed ten. Wages paid 75 cents for unskilled and $1.50 for skilled. Work 10 hours. Pay monthly. All employees read and write, and half save part of earnings. Their educational and moral condition is improving. We have been in this State but one year, and we find this an industrious and prosperous people. Land well adapted to growing fine tobacco, and an abundance of fine timber. Educational and religious advantages very good.

MECKLENBURG.

J. T. C.—Labor is somewhat demoralized here by a desire to emigrate to Liberia, and by high wages offered by mining and railroad companies.

FURNITURE MANUFACTORY.—This manufactory of furniture is a new enterprise here, and we are not prepared to give full statistics. Help is reliable and satisfactory. We have run full time this year. Capital employed $20,000. Value of product for the year $30,000. Paid for labor $12,000. Average number hands employed thirty-six.

IRON WORKS.—On account of short crops the three years past, the volume of business has been greatly reduced, the shrinkage in value, too, reducing the amount. Labor wages have remained the same nominally, but have actually increased, as the purchasing power of the dollar has been largely added to. We employ eighty men. Average wages $2.00 per day of 10 hours. Capital employed $50,000. Value of product for the year $110,000. Paid for wages $30,000.

SASH, DOORS AND BLINDS.—Capital employed $8,000. Value of product for the year $15,000. Total paid for labor $7,000. Employ twenty hands. Pay skilled men $1.50, unskilled 75 cents. Ten hours. Pay weekly. Financially the condition of working people is about as good as at any time in the last few years; while wages have decreased, the purchasing power of money has increased more. Their educational advantages are better than ever before, while in morals they are, perhaps, equal to any in the State.

MITCHELL.

IRON AND LUMBER.—This company has not yet began operations much, except in lumber. The past year and present one, spent in improvements and getting ready for work. Owns a vast amount of magnetic iron ore and hard wood on 63,000 acres of land. Paid out for labor the past year $12,000. Employ fifteen men. Average wages $1.00 per day for 10 hours.

MONTGOMERY.

LUMBER BUSINESS.—Capital employed $20,000. Employs twelve men at from 60 cents to $1.50 per day. Three women at 40 cents and twelve children at 25 cents. Work 10 hours. Full time twelve months.

NAVAL STORES.—Full time twelve months. Capital $10,000. Value of product $20,000. Employ twenty men, three women and three children. Pay men $1.00, women 50 cents, children 25 cents. Ten to twelve hours per day. We work principally colored hands; they work by the piece and most of them earn $1.00 per day. They are contented and happy, and some of them are making financial improvement.

FOUNDERS AND MACHINISTS.—There are four brothers of us in the firm and we do our own work largely. We employ but few hands. We pay skilled men $2.00 per day, and ordinary labor 40 cents. Have $2,000 invested in the business. The morals of working people are good. The laws are well executed, and our people are doing reasonably well for hard times.

MOORE.

FARMING AND MINING.—I do a small mining business in connection with my farm. Employ eight men and three children. Pay skilled men $2.00 per day, unskilled 50 cents, children 25 cents. Ten hours. Pay them weekly. The people

are becoming more interested in education, and their moral and financial condition is improving correspondingly.

SASH, DOORS AND BLINDS.—Capital employed $8,000. Paid out for labor $3,000. Men employed eight, youths three. Wages paid, men 60 cents for ordinary labor, $1.50 for skilled. Work 10 hours per day. Pay weekly. Four employees live in homes of their own, and three save part of their earnings.

NEW HANOVER.

BUILDING CONTRACTOR.—Average number of hands employed twenty-five. Pay for skilled men $2.00 per day, unskilled $1.25. Work 10 hours per day and pay weekly. I have a colored man for foreman who is a college graduate, and he is the only one of such I ever knew to go back to his trade, or to work with his hands after receiving a college education. The mechanics here are industrious and contented, and many of them own their own homes. Perfect harmony where wages are paid promptly.

PAMLICO.

SAW-MILL.—I have been here twenty-two years. The people are becoming each year more industrious. They do not, however, manifest much interest in education. The colored people do this to a greater degree than the white people.

PASQUOTANK.

MANUFACTURER OF COTTON-YARN AND SEINE TWINE.—Capital employed in this business $13,000. Value of product for year $20,000. Twenty-two hands employed—three men, ten women, six youths, three children under twelve. Wages paid skilled men $2.00, unskilled $1.00, women 50, children and youths 33 cents. No child under fourteen ought to be put out to work, but should be at school. Ten hours ought to be a day's work.

OIL MILLS MANUFACTURING COTTON SEED PRODUCTS.—Average number of men twenty-five, youths five. Wages paid men $1.00 per day for unskilled and $2.00 for skilled. Work 10 hours. Pay weekly. Mill in operation six months in the year. Half of employees read and write and a few of them live in their own houses.

PERSON.

MILLING.—Labor is unreliable. The colored people do not save any of their wages; they dress and frolic it out as a general thing. They are not mending their condition. The farmers pay all that the labor they get is worth. The white men that hire for wages on the farm are about upon an equality with the colored men as to the amount of labor they do. There are no factories in the county.

PITT.

IRON WORKS.—Ten hours' work. Pay hands weekly. Seven men employed. Skilled men get $1.75 per day, unskilled 80 cents. Perfect unity of feeling between employees and employer. They are contented and have no other desire seemingly but to see business prosper. There is perfect freedom among my hands. They know I feel an interest in them and they likewise feel an interest in me. We have no hands that drink.

RANDOLPH.

LUMBER.—Capital employed $2,000. Value of product for the year $2,000. Ten hours day's work. Eight men employed at $1.50 for skilled men, and 65 cents for unskilled. Wages paid monthly.

GENERAL WOOD WORK.—We employ three men and two youths. Men get from 75 cents to $1.25, youths 40 cents. Work 10 hours per day and are paid weekly. We have been living in this county since 1829, when the first factory was established here. Men who at that time made 50 cents per day now make 75 cents to $1.00. Women who then made 25 and 30 cents now get 40 and 50 cents. The morals of the place has always been good, special attention being given Sunday schools, churches, &c.

TINNERS, &C.—Capital employed $15,000. Value of product for year $6,750. Paid for labor during year $1,500. Employ four men at wages ranging from 85 cents to $1.50. Work 10 hours per day and pay weekly. One-fourth of employees read and write. One will save part of earnings. None live in homes of their own. Educational and moral condition improving.

ROCKINGHAM.

WOOLEN MILLS.—Average number hands employed one hundred and sixty-nine. Men thirty, women one hundred and nine, youths sixteen, children under twelve years fourteen. Capital employed $210,000. Value of product for year $135,000. Paid for labor during year $26,000. We pay for skilled mechanics $2.00 per day, ordinary mill hands as follows: men average 85 cents, women 38 to 50 cents, children 25 cents. 11½ hours per day. We furnish comfortable houses to our employees free of rent, to which is attached garden spot, fruit trees, &c., each one separately enclosed. Our employees are industrious, orderly, virtuous and contented. We have no migratory hands. The factory village is a school district, and we have a good free school. Seventeen of our unmarried female employees hold $4,400 in good securities, bought with savings from their wages in the mill. We pay off in cash every Monday.

IRON BOUND BUCKETS, &C.—Established March 1st, 1887, not fully equipped until 1st of June, and cannot therefore make report until later in season.

SAMPSON.

R. M. R.—The people in this part of Sampson (Owensville) give most of their time to working in turpentine, but do not seem to make much money at it, and are gradually quitting for the better, I think.

STANLY.

J. W. B.—You ask my opinion of the status of labor in general; to this would say that from droughts, overflows, chintz-bug, high taxes for common schools, churches, public roads, crimes, &c., the common landless laborer is down very low in humility, and for the last five years very much depressed in spirits, and consequently the labor has become in part unsatisfactory and inactive. Putting all these things together, the aggregate is, that depression, to a great extent, is universal in this and adjoining counties, rendering it impossible for the ordinary

farmer to run his farm without the death warrant (mortgage). The land owner is afraid to risk capital, or promise good wages to the masses. The mechanic of all kinds, house-builders, wheelwrights, millwrights, painters, &c., &c., have played out. This county has made about an average crop this year, and we hope now for some better times.

SURRY.

MANUFACTURING WAGONS AND LUMBER.—Capital employed $2,500. Value of product for year $1,200. Men employed eight part of the time. Wages from 60 cents to $1.00 per day of 10 hours. Pay monthly. Seven read and write, four live in homes of their own. All save part of their earnings. There has been considerable increase in education the past three years.

SWAIN.

C. V. H.—Our firm began operation about the middle of May last. We have one of the finest mills for the manufacture of Talc to be found anywhere. The capacity is twenty tons in 10 hours. We have a fine marble deposit, perhaps as good as can be found in the United States; quality of the marble said by experts to be the best this side of Italy. We have no churches here, and no school houses. The education of the people is limited, but they are good law abiding citizens, and anxious for improvement.

TRANSYLVANIA.

DISTILLERS, &C.—Capital employed $8,000. Men four. Wages 75 cents per day of 10 hours. All employees read and write. None live in their own homes.

WAKE.

MANUFACTURING CLOTHING.—Capital employed $25,000. Employ an average of forty women who do their work at home and make about 50 cents per day.

MANUFACTURING OF SHOES AND HORSE COLLARS.—We keep regularly employed about thirty men and three women. The men get from 80 cents per day for ordinary hands to $1.75 for skilled hands and $3.00 for Superintendent. Work 10 hours per day and pay weekly in cash. Capital employed $20,000. Value of product for year $60,000. Total paid for labor during year $15,000.

GENERAL NURSERY AND FARM.—Employ twenty men at from 50 cents to $1.50 per day. Work 12 hours per day and pay weekly. Capital employed $10,000. Value product for the year $10,000. Total paid for labor $8,000. While the price paid for labor is low, I can't farm and pay expenses at present prices.

MANUFACTURERS OF CARS AND GENERAL BUILDERS MATERIAL.—Capital employed $45,000. Value product for the year $52,762. Paid for labor $10,720. Average number of hands fifty, who receive from 75 cents for ordinary labor to $1.75 for skilled labor. We work 10 hours per day and pay monthly.

WASHINGTON.

MACHINE WORKS.—Capital employed $15,000. Value of product $10,000. Average number of men employed ten. Wages paid skilled men $2.00 per day, unskilled 80 cents. Work 10 hours per day and pay semi-monthly. One employee lives in his own home and only a few save any of their earnings.

WILSON.

GENERAL FOUNDRY.—Capital employed $6,000. Value of product for the year $10,000. Men employed seven, at wages ranging from 80 cents to $1.50 per day. Total paid for labor during year $2,000. Work 10 hours per day and pay weekly. Five employees read and write, three own their homes, and all save part of their earnings.

BUILDER.—Capital employed $4,000. Value of work for year $14,000. Pay skilled men $2.00 per day, unskilled 75 cents. Work 10 hours per day and pay wages weekly.

MANUFACTURER CARRIAGES AND BUGGIES.—Men employed sixteen, at wages varying from $1.00 to $2.00 per day of ten hours. Capital employed $20,000. Value of product for the year $35,000. Total paid for labor during year $8,500. Greatest number hands employed at any time twenty-three, average number sixteen. Pay wages weekly. All employees read and write, and one saves part of earnings. Their moral and educational condition improving.

YADKIN.

J. G. H.—We have had about three bad crop years, making money matters very close, but everything is on the boom now. We have a fine crop of oats, wheat, rye, corn, potatoes and tobacco. Some farmers have already sold a part of their tobacco at a good price. There is no reason why any man should be idle; there is plenty to do.

YANCEY.

MICA MINING.—The financial condition of the people of this county is not as good as it was three years ago. There are but few men in this county that have more than one or two men employed, and they are employed irregularly.

CHAPTER III.

LANDLORDS' RETURNS.

According to the census of 1880, three-fourth of the people of North Carolina were at that time engaged in farming, one-seventh in professional and personal service, one-fifteenth in manufacturing, mining and mechanical operations and one-thirtieth in trade and transportation. Since 1880 these proportions have, of course, been changed, especially in manufacturing, so that there are more people now engaged in other occupations in the State than farming than there were when the last census was taken, and a greater proportion also, still the great body of the people of North Carolina are farmers, and that which represents the farmers of the State represents the great majority of our people. The Bureau recognizing this fact has been diligent in collecting information in regard to farm labor and its incidents. The returns which have been received are very full, and it is believed reliable as representing the true condition of the farming interests of the State. There is enough information received from farmers alone, embracing landlords, tenants and farm laborers to make, if published in full, a volume of considerable size. Perhaps the farmers of the State have never before expressed themselves so fully as in this report. The gist of what has been said is published. This chapter is given to the information furnished by landlords. Every county is fully represented by numerous replies. There are many valuable suggestions which will do good if scattered among our people. If they are at all indicative of the thoughts and feelings which characterize the landlord farmers of the State it can be said that they are waking up to new ideas and therefore new conditions. The Bureau believes that such is the case. The farmers of the State are thinking now more than they ever thought before about the evils of farming in the past and its possibilities in the future—hence they are ready to express themselves. What is said in the remarks is said from experience and much of it sad experi-

ence. It is therefore interesting and profitable reading and should receive careful attention.

The mortgage and lien bond system gets more attention perhaps than any other topic, and very properly, because the facts gathered and presented show that more evils have come to the farmers of the State on account of the mortgage and lien bond system than from any other, and indeed from every other source. It has proved a worse curse to North Carolina than drouths, floods, cyclones, storms, rust, caterpillars and every other evil that attends the farmer. Wherever they have depended upon this system to furnish them their supplies the farmers are in debt, and wherever it has been the custom of the farmers to raise their own supplies, there the people are free from debt and the community is thrifty. The cotton belt of North Carolina from the reports made is worse off financially than any other part of the State. This may be attributed to raising a money crop. It is an easy matter to sell cotton when it is gathered. Cotton is as easily handled almost as money, and therefore the merchant wants cotton for his supplies. He does not want hay, clover, grain, potatoes, &c., they are too much trouble to handle, and when a farmer proposes to raise these articles it is impossible to get supplies from a merchant. The merchant insists upon a cotton crop, because of the facility with which he can handle it. The same may to a large extent be said of a landlord—rent is usually demanded in lint cotton. All the tendencies in the cotton belt, therefore, is for the cultivation of a money crop, and the results are perfectly apparent—the farmers of the cotton belt are more heavily mortgaged than any other section of the State, and they are worse off generally. The table and remarks in this chapter prove that fact. Take the figures and remarks from twenty of the most western counties, beginning with Cherokee, where the least mortgaging for supplies is carried on and it will be found that the farmers are better off and there is a more cheerful spirit than in the cotton belt where the money crop is relied on. Farm labor is also represented as better paid in these western counties—the average price is represented at $9.50 per month and board, while in twenty of the best counties in the cotton belt the wages of farm laborers are $8.40 per month and board.

It is true in some of the western counties the mortgage system is beginning to be felt. It is said by some of the reports to be attribu-

ted to raising of tobacco in late years, but its blighting effect has not made itself apparent yet as it has in the eastern counties. The per cent. paid in the west is not as great as it is in the eastern counties, the average per cent. being about 25 per cent., while in the eastern counties the average is at least 40 per cent. The most profitable business in this country cannot pay such a per cent. as that, much less farming. A farmer who pays it is carrying on a useless game, in which he must sooner or later lose all he has. It is better to close out at almost any sacrifice than to continue such a losing fight. It is useless to talk about diversified crops to a man who pays 40 per cent. for supplies. There is no system of diversified crops that will enable him to pay such a price it makes no difference what kind of a crop may be raised. It is some times shown on paper that bread and meat can be bought for less than it can be raised in North Carolina, but in the practical demonstration it does not so readily appear. Somehow or other the farmer who buys supplies goes backward, and the one who does not goes forward. The facts and the figures in this chapter alike prove that the bane of the North Carolina farmer is the lien bond and mortgage system, and their sequence a failure to raise home supplies. The conclusion of the whole matter is therefore that there must be an increased production of farm supplies in the State if the farmers would better their condition and place themselves beyond the time-price system.

A good many of the landlord correspondents of the Bureau complain of the unreliability of farm labor, especially is this complaint made in the eastern and central counties of the State. Too much of this complaint is well founded. Farm laborers make contracts which are faithfully complied with by their employers, and yet it very frequently happens that at the very time that the services of the laborer is most needed, he becomes tired of work, or sees a chance where he can get perhaps a slight increase upon wages, generally for a short time, and he abandons his contract and deserts his employer and his fields in utter disregard of what is right and just. The frequency of this course on the part of farm employees has provoked a pretty general comment on the part of the landlords in their remarks. A great deal of the complaints made are just, and for which there is no valid excuse. It may be said that farm hands are very poorly paid, but that can be no just excuse for abandoning

a contract which has been entered into and which can be performed. A bad bargain should be adhered to as well as a good one. It dignifies and helps any one to do so, and it is detrimental to any one not to do so. It is certain that the unreliability of labor in some of the counties of the State has begotten for itself a feeling of contempt on the part of landlords which finds ready and positive expression in this report. Too much cannot be said in condemnation of this unreliability. It is a great annoyance and drawback to the farming interests and ought to be remedied—but the interesting question is, how is this to be done?

Of course you cannot compel a man to work unless he wants to do so. The proper course therefore to pursue, is to capture his volition and then to keep it captured. The system of labor which prevails in most of the counties of the State does not have this tendency, and the system which prevails would undermine and destroy the reliability of the very best labor. The reports received show that the average number of months which farm labor is employed is a fraction over seven. That means that there are five months for idleness or uncertain labor. Seven months of sun to sun toil, followed by five months of intermittent labor, with its bar-room companionships in hours of idleness will produce its effect upon the average farm hand. No such system will make a laborer reliable or keep him so. The system of farming which distributes labor over the whole year would doubtless be found to be the most satisfactory and the most profitable. That is the opinion and practice of some of the most successful farmers in the State. It is said by them that most of our farmers do not appreciate as they should the work that may be done between the laying by and the commencing of crops. It is certain that farm labor would be rendered far more reliable by more steady employment than it now receives. This point thrown out for consideration.

Another matter that might be considered in the same connection is the paying of wages promised to farm hands in supplies by landlords or in orders upon merchants. The average farm hand does not know a great deal about figures, and when paid in supplies he soon runs ahead or at least consumes his earnings, gets no money, becomes dissatisfied, even though the transactions with him are fair and just, and when the labor he is doing becomes hard, he quits,

and that too, in the very worst time. This is frequently the case when the transactions are altogether fair and just, but it sometimes happens, and too frequently is it the case, that these transactions are not fair, but the farm laborer is imposed upon by outrageous per cents charged for supplies received, and this bad treatment of course, bears fruit in poor service and in abandonment of contracts. One landlord correspondent from Hyde, says: "Those who pay cash for farm labor never have any trouble getting hands when they need them. There are many who cannot pay cash and others who will not. They have more or less difficulty keeping hands and the laborers are always unsatisfied. I think it the best rule to pay cash." Another landlord from Tyrrell says: "I am sure that much of the discontent and moving from place to place among tenants and laborers arises from the failure of landlords to provide properly for their comfort. They do not receive that consideration which they should." Another from Richmond county says: "Negro farm laborers are, as a general rule, ignorant and much imposed upon by some farmers, which is a shame to the farming interest, but it is true and ought to be remedied."

It seems, therefore, while much may be said in derogation of the reliability of farm labor, probably the causes for the unreliability are not altogether on one side. Let these be removed upon which ever side they may exist, is a matter of the first importance in the consideration of the question.

A correspondent from Pender suggests that much of the discontent might be avoided if the contracts between landlords and tenants and laborers were made and subscribed before a Justice of the Peace; then no advantage would be taken by one over the other, or at least the chances would be very materially lessened. Another suggests that when a chattel mortgage or lien bond is made for supplies, that the instrument should be witnessed by some disinterested person who should read it over to the party executing, and witness the same before it should be valid. It is claimed that these methods would materially lessen the complaints about unjust and ruinous contracts. Whether this is so or not, it is certain that in order to make farm labor reliable what is promised should be paid in cash. The compensation of farm hands is comparatively small, and it is

true that farmers pay all that they can afford to pay, but what is promised should be fairly and fully paid. If this is done, much of the unreliability will be avoided.

There are many other interesting ideas presented in the returns which have been received from landlords and which are given in the remarks at the end of this chapter. A perusal of the remarks made will prove interesting and profitable.

TABLE No. 4.

TABULATED STATEMENT OF LANDLORDS' RETURNS, SHOWING AVERAGE RATE OF WAGES PAID, AND THE EDUCATIONAL, MORAL AND FINANCIAL CONDITION OF FARM LABOR IN NORTH CAROLINA.

TABLE No. 4.—TABULATED STATEMENT OF LANDLORDS' RETURNS, SHOWING AVERAGE OF FARM LABOR IN

COUNTIES.	AVERAGE WAGES PAID.						Any difference to white and colored?	Per cent. of wages paid in cash?	Per cent. in trade or store orders.	Has wages incr'sed any in 3 years?	Has wages decr'sd any in 3 years?	Cause of increase or decrease.	Are they incli'd to run ahe'd of wages	How many in ten will save p't wages
	Male per day and board.	Male per mo'th and board.	Fem'le per day and board.	F'm'le p'r m'th and board.	Males without board.	Females without board.								
Alamance	40	$8 66	30	$4 00	50	40	no	62½	37½	no	yes	Crop failure.	yes	1
Alexander	45	8 75	..	3 12	75	50	no	25	75	no	yes	Short crop.	yes	2
Alleghany	50	8 50	25	-----	75	---	no	50	50	no	no	----------	yes	1
Anson	40	8 00	----	--	60	40	no	50	50	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Ashe	50	10 00	30	4 00	65	30	no	25	75	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	2
Beaufort	50	9 50	35	-----	60	40	no	50	50	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	2
Bertie	40	8 50		4 50	50	35	no	25	75	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	3
Bladen	40	9 50	25	4 50	60	40	no	25	75	no	yes	Gen'l depressi'n.	yes	1
Brunswick	45	8 60	25	4 00	56	35	no	15	85	no	yes	Scarcity of mo'y	yes	2
Buncombe	50	10 00	----	6 00	75	40	no	50	50	no	no	----------	yes	----
Burke	50	9 00	25	4 50	66⅔	35	no	50	50	yes	----	Scarcity hands.	yes	2
Cabarrus	40	8 00	30	3 50	50	37	no	50	50	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	2
Caldwell	40	8 00	25	3 00	50	35	no	62½	37½	no	no	----------	yes	1
Camden	55	10 00	---	4 00	75	55	no	65	35	no	yes	Low price prod.	yes	2
Carteret	50	9 00	32	4 00	60	40	no	40	60	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Caswell	45	8 00	25	4 00	65	40	no	100	----	no	yes	Low price tob'co	yes	----
Catawba	45	8 50	25	5 00	65	40	no	25	75	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Chatham	40	8 00	30	3 50	50	40	no	65	35	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Cherokee	50	8 50	30	4 00	60	40	no	----	----	---	----	----------	----	----
Chowan	50	8 50	30	4 00	60	40	no	50	50	no	yes	----------	yes	1
Clay	50	10 00	25	-----	75	50	no	----	100	no	yes	Scarcity money.	yes	1
Cleveland	45	9 00	----	4 00	65	40	no	50	50	yes	----	More demand.	yes	----
Columbus	40	8 00	25	5 00	60	35	no	33⅓	66⅔	no	yes	Low price cott'n	yes	1
Craven	40	8 50	30	5 00	55	40	no	50	50	no	sl'gt	Low prices.	yes	1
Cumberland	40	8 50	25	5 00	50	33⅓	no	25	75	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	----
Currituck	50	10 00	40	5 00	75	50	no	50	50	no	yes	Low price prod.	yes	1
Davie	45	7 50	25	3 50	55	30	no	40	60	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Davidson	40	7 50	25	3 50	60	35	yes	50	50	no	yes	Low price tob'co	yes	1
Dare	50	11 00	25	-----	75	----	no	75	25	no	no	----------	s'me	2
Durham	50	9 00	30	4 00	70	40	no	75	25	no	yes	Poor crops.	yes	1
Duplin	45	8 50	30	4 50	60	35	no	45	55	no	yes	Four bad crops.	mjy	2
Edgecombe	50	9 00	35	----	60	40	no	100	----	yes	----	----------	yes	5
Forsyth	45	8 00	----	----	75	----	---	----	----	----	----	----------	----	1
Franklin	40	8 50	----	4 50	50	37½	no	33⅓	66⅔	no	yes	Low price cott'n	yes	2
Gaston	40	9 00	---	5 00	50	30	no	50	50	yes	no	----------	yes	1
Gates	45	9 00	25	3 50	70	45	no	40	60	yes	----	Lumber trade.	yes	2
Graham	50	9 00	----	-----	65	----	no	25	75	yes	----	Public work.	yes	3
Granville	50	10 00	30	-----	75	---	no	33⅓	66⅔	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Greene	35	9 00	25	-----	50	35	no	50	50	no	no	----------	yes	1
Guilford	37½	9 00	25	-----	65	----	no	40	60	no	yes	Poor crops.	yes	1
Halifax	37½	8 00	25	4 00	50	30	no	50	50	no	yes	Poor crops.	yes	1
Harnett	45	8 00	--	4 50	60	30	no	25	75	no	10pc	----------	yes	1
Haywood	50	10 00	30	-----	70	40	no	50	50	yes	no	R.R.and mills.	yes	2
Henderson	45	10 00	----	3 50	60	35	no	50	50	sme	sme	----------	yes	2
Hertford	40	9 00	25	5 00	65	40	no	50	50	yes	no	R. R. work.	yes	1
Hyde	50	10 00	30	4 00	75	40	no	75	25	no	no	----------	yes	1
Iredell	40	10 00	25	4 00	65	40	no	50	50	----	yes	----------	yes	2
Jackson	40	9 00	25	3 00	65	35	no	25	75	no	yes	Scarcity money.	yes	1
Johnston	40	9 50	25	5 00	60	40	no	25	75	no	yes	Hard times.	yes	----

RATE OF WAGES PAID, AND THE EDUCATIONAL, MORAL AND FINANCIAL CONDITION NORTH CAROLINA.

M'ths regular w'rk	Is there scarcity of farm labor?	What part of crop do tena'ts rec. wh'n landlo'd fur. team,	What when ten'nt furnishes himself?	What per cent of tena'ts buy on time	What per ct. above cash prices charg'd by landlords?	What per c'nt. over cash price have to pay merchants?	What per cent. "pay out?"	Is condi'tn of land own'rs better than 1 year ago?	Three years ago?	Is cond'tn tenants bet. than 1 y'r ago?	Three years ago?	Do child'n of white attend school?	Of colored?	Wh't p'r ct. of farm hands read & write	Is moral condition better or worse, than 2 years ago?	How many acres for one horse crop?	Value in money of one horse crop.
8	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3 to 3/4	75	10	25	75	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	28	better	30	$275
6	no	1/3	2/3	50	25	40	100	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	66 2/3	better	25	185
7	no	1/2	2/3	25	....	15	100	yes	no	no	no	half	2/3	50	better	20	175
6	no	1/2	3/4	75	33 1/3	75	50	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	75	same	25	300
7	yes	1/2	2/3	50	10	20	75	no	no	w'se	w'se	yes	yes	75	same	20	160
7 1/2	no	1/2	2/3	75	25	40	90	no	no	w'se	w'se	yes	yes	35	same	25	350
6	no	1/2	3/4	100	20	33 1/3	50	no	no	w'se	w'se	yes	yes	50	worse	25	300
7 1/2	yes	1/3 to 1/2	1/2 to 2/3	100	12 1/2	......	95	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	50	better	25	225
7	yes	1/2	2/3	90	28	39	75	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	2/3	better	25	275
7	no	1/2	2/3	50	25	33	75	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	....	......	....	250
8	yes	1/3 to 1/2	1/2 to 2/3	25	8	30	75	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	1/2	same	20	175
5	no	1/3	2/3	75	25	25	60	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	1/2	same	25	235
6	no	......	....	....	......	......	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	......	....	....
6	yes	1/3 to 1/2	2/3 to 3/4	75	25	40	65	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	50	better	30	300
7 1/2	yes	1/2	2/3	100	15	......	100	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	25	better	25	400
10	no	1/2	3/4	50	10	25	95	no	no	w'se	w'se	yes	yes	1/2	better	25	200
7	no	1/3	1/2 to 2/3	60	25	47	80	no	no	w'se	w'se	3/4	yes	2/3	better	20	237
7 1/2	yes	1/3	2/3 to 3/4	75	25	50	75	no	no	no	no	3/4	all	50	same	25	220
...	....	......	....	....	......	......	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	......	....	....
8	no	1/2	2/3	75	......	35	90	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	1/3	better	35	350
6	no	1/2	2/3	50	10	20	75	yes	yes	no	no	2/3	all	1/2	same	20	175
6	no	1/2	2/3	50	25	33 1/3	50	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	60	same	25	250
8	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	75	20	30	50	no	no	w'se	w'se	3/4	yes	75	better	35	350
8	no	1/2	3/4	75	25	40	75	no	no	sme	sme	ptly	yes	50	same	30	300
6	no	1/2	2/3	75	25	33 1/3	50	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	66	same	30	350
5	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	60	10	33 1/3	66 2/3	no	yes	w'se	w'se	yes	yes	66	better	30	400
10	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	90	10	33 1/3	75	no	no	w'se	w'se	yes	yes	50	better	25	300
8	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	50	12	30	75	no	no	w'se	w'se	yes	yes	75	better	25	250
7	yes	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	30	....	25	90	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	65	better	30	300
10	yes	1/2 to 3/4	3/4	80	20	35	50	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	33 1/3	worse	20	300
9	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3 to 3/4	75	20	30	80	no	no	yes	no	yes	yes	60	same	33	300
8	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	90	25	75	75	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	....	same	30	550
9	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	60	10	25	100	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	....	same	20	....
9	no	1/2	3/4	90	20	40	60	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes	66	better	25	375
8	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	100	10	20	50	no	no	no	no	1/2	3/4	50	same	20	200
8	no	1/2	2/3 to 3/4	80	20	33 1/3	75	no	no	no	no	2/3	yes	3/4	better	30	300
5	no	1/2	2/3	33 1/3	25	50	66 2/3	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	1/2	same	20	150
10	no	1/3 to 1/2	1/2 to 3/4	80	25	40	75	no	no	no	no	2/3	all	1/2	same	25	350
7	no	1/2	3/4	100	15	25	75	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	2/3	better	30	400
6	no	1/3	2/3	75	29	96	66 2/3	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	55	better	33 1/3	300
6	no	1/2	3/4	75	20	30	75	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	1/2	same	30	350
8	no	1/2	3/4	75	10	25	75	no	no	sme	sme	yes	yes	66 2/3	same	30	325
7	yes	1/3 to 1/2	1/2 to 2/3	50	20	35	100	better	yes	yes	sme	yes	yes	50	better	20	250
7	no	1/2	2/3	sme	15	15	100	no	no	sme	sme	2/3	yes	75	better	20	250
8	no	1/2	3/4 to 2/3	80	25	40	66 2/3	same	no	sme	sme	yes	yes	50	same	30	250
8	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3 to 3/4	90	20	40	80	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	25	better	30	400
8	no	1/3	2/3	50	20	25	75	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	66 2/3	better	30	250
6	no	1/2	2/3	33 1/3	15	30	100	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	50	same	20	250
9	no	1/2	1/3 to 3/4	80	30	40	75	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	50	better	30	350

TABULATED STATEMENT OF LANDLORDS' RETURNS—*Continued.*

COUNTIES.	AVERAGE WAGES PAID.						Any difference to white and colored?	Per cent. of wages paid in cash?	Per cent. in trade or store orders.	Have wag's incr'sd any in 3 years?	Have wags decr'sd any in 3 years?	Cause of increase or decrease.	Are they incl'd to rum ah'd of wages?	How many in ten will save p't wages
	Male per day and board.	Male per mo'th and board.	Fem'le per day and board.	F'm'le p'r m'th and board.	Males without board.	Females without board.								
Jones	40	$8 50	30	$5 00	50	40	no	50	50	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Lenoir	40	10 00	----	----	50	35	no	50	50	no	yes	Low price prod.	yes	1
Lincoln	40	9 50	--	4 00	75	50	no	50	50	no	yes	----	yes	2
McDowell	40	10 00	---	5 00	50	25	no	25	75	no	yes	Hard times.	yes	1
Macon	----	10 00	----	4 00	50	25	no	50	50	no	no	----	---	2
Madison	50	12 00		4 00	75	40	no	50	50	no	yes	----	yes	5
Martin	40	8 00	25	----	55	30	no	50	50	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Mecklenburg	50	10 00	25	5 00	60	35	no	50	50	no	yes	Gen'l depression	yes	1/2
Mitchell	50	12 00	25	-- -	75	----	no	50	50	yes	no	Mining.	yes	2
Montgomery	40	8 50	30	4 00	50	35	no	25	75	no	yes	Bad crops.	yes	1
Moore	35	8 00	25	3 50	50	35	no	60	40	no	yes	Low prices.	yes	1
Nash	35	8 00	20	----	---	--	no	33 1/3	66 2/3	no	yes	Bad crops.	----	1
New Hanov'r	---	10 00	----	5 00	60	40	no	75	25	no	no	----	yes	----
Northampt'n	45	9 00	35	4 00	60	40	no	25	75	yes	no	New railroad.	yes	1
Onslow	40	8 00	--	4 00	50	35	no	25	75	no	yes	----	yes	1
Orange	40	9 00	--	4 00	65	40	no	50	50	no	yes	----	yes	3
Pamlico	50	9 00	30	5 00	65	50	no	25	75	no	yes	Low prices.	yes	1
Pasquotank	50	10 00	---	----	70	----	no	25	75	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Pender	40	10 00	---	5 00	50	30	no	25	75	no	yes	Short crops.	---	1
Perquimans	40	8 00	--	4 00	60	--	no	50	50	no	yes	Scarcity money.	yes	1
Person	35	8 00	----	4 50	50	35	no	50	50	no	yes	Gen'l depression	yes	1
Pitt	40	9 00	25	5 00	55	35	no	75	25	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Polk	40	8 00	25	5 00	65	40	no	25	75	yes	no	R. R. work.	yes	1
Randolph	40	9 00	25	-- -	60	40	no	50	50	yes	no	R. R. work.	yes	3
Richmond	40	8 50	35	5 00	50	40	no	25	75	---	yes	Short crops.	yes	2
Robeson	40	9 00	25	5 00	60	40	no	10	90	----	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Rockingham	40	8 50	25	4 00	65	40	no	50	50	----	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Rowan	40	9 00		4 00	50	35	no	50	50	yes	----	Scarcity hands.	yes	2
Rutherford	40	9 00	25	5 00	60	40	no	50	50	yes	--	R. R. work.	yes	2
Sampson	40	8 50	25	5 00	55	35	no	25	75	---	yes	Poor crops.	yes	2
Stanly	40	9 00	25	4 00	50	40	no	50	50	---	yes	Poor crops.	yes	1
Stokes'	50	8 50	25	----	75	40	no	25	75	yes	----	----	yes	1
Surry	40	8 50	25	----	50	----	no	25	75	no	no	----	yes	2
Swain	45	10 00	25	----	60	35	no	25	75	yes	----	R. R. demand.	yes	2
Transylv'nia	40	9 00	----	5 00	60	----	no	50	50	no	no	----	yes	1
Tyrrell	50	10 00		4 00	70	50	no	50	50	no	yes	Poor prices.	yes	----
Union	40	8 50	30	4 00	50	40	no	40	60	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Vance	----	8 00	20	3 50	50	25	no	75	25	no	10pc	Short crops.	yes	----
Wake	45	9 00	30	4 00	60	40	no	70	30	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	1
Warren	40	7 00	20	4 00	50	35	no	60	40	no	yes	Short crops.	yes	2
Washington	50	10 00	---	5 00	70	40	no	50	50	no	sm e	Low prices.	yes	2
Watauga	50	9 00	25	4 00	65	25	no	20	80	no	no	----	yes	2
Wayne	45	9 00	20	5 00	55	40	no	50	50	no	yes	Low prices.	yes	----
Wilkes	35	8 00	25	-- -	50	35	no	25	75	yes	no	----	yes	2
Wilson	40	8 50	----	5 00	55	40	no	50	50	no	yes	Low prices.	yes	1
Yadkin	40	8 50	25	----	70	35	no	50	50	no	no	----	yes	---
Yancey	35	9 00	----	4 00	50	25	no	25	75	no	s'me	----	yes	1

TABULAR STATEMENT OF LANDLORDS' RETURNS.—*Continued.*

M'ths regular w'rk	Is there scarcity of farm labor?	What part of crop do tena'ts rec. wh'n landlo'd fur. team?	What when tena't furnishes himself?	What per cent. of tena'ts buy on time	What per ct. above cash prices charg'd by landlords?	What per ct. over cash price have to pay merchants?	What per cent. "pay out?"	Is condit'n of land own'rs better than 1 year ago?	Three years ago?	Is condt'n tenants bet. than 1 y'r ago?	Three years ago?	Do child'n of white attend school?	Of colored?	Wh't p'r ct. of farm hands read & write	Is moral condition better or worse, than 2 years ago?	How many acres for one horse crop?	Value in money of one horse crop.
7	no	1/3 to 1/2	3/4	75	20	30	75	no	no	sme	sme	ptly	yes	50	same	20	$300
10	no	1/2	2/3	75	20	40	50	no	yes	sme	sme	yes	yes	33 1/3	same	35	400
6	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3 to 3/4	75	20	40	75	no	no	wse	sme	yes	yes	50	same	20	200
7	no	1/4 to 1/2	1/2 to 2/3	50	10	50	75	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	50	same	25	----
8	no	1/2	2/3	50	20	25	---	-----	----	yes	----	yes	yes	60	better	----	----
8	no	1/2	2/3	50	8	25	90	better	yes	sme	sme	ptly	yes	40	same	20	300
7	no	1/2	3/4	75	25	50	50	same	no	sme	sme	yes	yes	50	better	30	350
7	no	1/3 to 1/2	1/2 to 3/4	60	15	50	80	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	50	same	25	300
8	yes	1/3 to 1/2	1/2 to 2/3	50	25	25	90	yes	yes	no	no	ptly	yes	50	same	25	250
9	no	1/2	3/4	90	20	30	75	no	no	sme	sme	yes	yes	66 2/3	better	30	300
8	no	1/2	3/4	75	20	35	60	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	33 1/3	better	30	300
7	no	1/3 to 1/2	1/2 to 3/4	80	25	50	60	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	20	better	35	---
8	yes	------	----	----	------	------	--	------	----	----	----	----	-	----	------	----	----
9	no	1/2	3/4	75	20	40	50	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	33 1/3	better	30	350
7	no	1/2	3/4	80	25	40	75	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	40	better	35	350
7	yes	1/3 to 1/2	2/3 to 3/4	80	10	40	75	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	33 1/3	same	25	250
6	yes	1/2	2/3	90	25	35	80	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	30	------	30	300
5	yes	1/3 to 1/2	1/2 to 3/4	80	20	40	75	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	75	same	25	200
7	no	1/2	2/3	90	15	30	---	------	----	no	no	yes	yes	20	better	---	----
12	no	1/2	2/3	50	15	25	90	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	20	better	30	300
12	no	1/2	3/4	90	20	25	60	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	50	better	33	300
8	no	1/2	2/3	50	20	30	50	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	66 2/3	same	25	300
5	yes	1/3 to 1/2	2/3 to 3/4	50	10	35	75	yes	yes	sme	sme	yes	yes	50	better	25	250
7	yes	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	20	10	25	95	no	no	sme	sme	ptly	yes	75	better	25	300
8	no	1/2	3/4	90	20	40	75	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	50	better	25	350
10	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3 to 3/4	75	20	50	65	yes	no	sme	no	ptly	yes	50	better	35	350
10	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3 to 3/4	80	20	30	50	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	50	better	30	275
8	yes	1/3	2/3	75	25	40	50	same	no	sme	no	ptly	ptly	66	same	30	300
5	yes	1/2	2/3	75	25	----	50	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	50	same	25	200
7	no	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	75	20	40	50	no	no	sme	sme	ptly	yes	66 2/3	better	35	250
6	----	1/2	----	90	10	50	75	no	no	no	--	yes	yes	60	better	25	300
10	yes	1/3 to 1/2	2/3	50	15	25	100	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	66	better	40	325
9	no	1/2	2/3	25	20	25	100	yes	yes	yes	yes	ptly	ptly	66	-----	30	200
5	no	1/2	2/3	10	10	20	75	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	66	better	20	200
7	no	1/3 to 1/2	1/2 to 3/4	50	20	30	100	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	50	better	20	325
8	no	1/2	2/3	60	10	30	80	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	66	better	30	300
7	no	1/2	2/3	50	20	35	75	same	sme	sme	sme	ptly	yes	50	better	25	250
10	no	1/2	3/4	50	10	30	75	same	sme	sme	sme	yes	yes	20	better	35	300
8	no	1/2	3/4	80	20	40	75	no	no	no	no	ptly	yes	60	------	25	350
10	no	1/2	3/4	75	20	40	75	no	no	sme	sme	yes	yes	50	same	25	250
7	no	1/2	2/3	90	25	40	75	no	no	sme	sme	yes	yes	75	better	30	400
7	no	1/2	2/3	40	10	25	66 2/3	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	50	same	15	150
8	yes	1/2	2/3	90	25	50	75	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	50	same	25	300
8	yes	1/4 to 1/2	1/2 to 3/4	25	20	30	100	same	yes	sme	yes	ptly	ptly	50	better	17	150
8	no	1/2	2/3	75	20	40	75	no	no	w'se	w'se	yes	yes	25	same	30	400
9	no	1/2	2/3	75	15	20	100	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	50	better	30	250
6	no	1/2	2/3	25	20	------	all	yes	yes	betr	betr	yes	yes	----	better	16	200

VIEWS OF LANDLORDS.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE BUREAU ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS FROM LANDLORDS IN THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES OF THE STATE.

ALAMANCE.

W. J. S.—To succeed, farmers must work themselves. I hire only one hand by the month. My two sons and myself do all my work, and succeed to a reasonable extent.

J. G. D.—We depend too much on guano and money crops—cotton and tobacco.

R. W. S.—The farmer and land-owner makes less and has a harder time than the day laborer. There are a great many mill operatives in this county—hundreds of them—and to my knowledge they are in a very good condition—much better than farmers. They live comfortably, and are seemingly happy.

ALEXANDER.

W. R. S.—In my vicinity there are very few tenants—mostly small farmers who own their land—and not much mortgage business, though there is much of it done in the county.

W. T. P.—Small farmers mostly in this neighborhood. Their condition in many respects is improving. Not much mortgaging in this immediate section.

W. L.—The great enemy to this county is King Alcohol.

ALLEGHANY.

R. A. D.—This is strictly an agricultural county; stock and cattle-raising the principal industry for profit. Perfect harmony between employer and employee. Stock well improved.

T. J. C.—Stock-raising the principal business. Corn, wheat and oats grown—grapes largely. Raise our own meat. Very poor crops of wheat and corn the past few years, which has seriously affected the tenant and poor farmer.

The financial condition of farmers is not so good as it has been in this county. We have had several short crops. The moral and educational condition is good—perhaps equal to any in the State.

ANSON.

J. P. M.—Laborers in this section of the county are not very reliable.

A. P. M.—Wage hands are very well paid here, and there is very little trouble getting all that are needed. Good feeling between all classes. The morals of the people are good; financially they are bad off, owing to excessive charges for their supplies. Those who sell on time represent that they charge about twenty-five per cent., when in fact they charge one hundred per cent. per annum.

J. W. T.—The depression among farmers has made them make a powerful effort this spring, and at this time have their crops in good condition and very

promising. They are getting out of the old way of farming, and are using new and improved implements suitable to their needs, and with favorable crops this year I think they will again be on the high-tide.

ASHE.

J. D.—The greatest draw-back to labor is whiskey and tobacco.

F. H.—People do not work over half their time; they make enough for home consumption, and there is no market for surplus. We need railroads and schools. This county possesses all the natural advantages. Most of the people are thrifty and own their farms.

W. F. B.—There is improvement in the general condition of the county, but the crop failure last year makes times very hard now.

BEAUFORT.

J. T. L.—A farm depending on tenants alone will go down in ten years. Colored tenants make only half as much as white. They will not work steadily. They will lose 150 days a year loafing, hunting, church-going, etc. Grasses and clover are the things to improve land.

H. E. T.—For hired labor on farm I prefer colored. Have no trouble getting good hands. By taking up stumps and using improved implements, I can farm very cheap. I raise cotton, corn, grasses and clover.

D. C. H.—Tenants do not pay out by depending on their crops alone, but they generally work out otherwise, by working out by the day. Money spent in educating the negro does not pay here, because of the inferior teachers. I have lived here fourteen years, and I have never known a negro teacher who could read intelligently or spell correctly half of the common names in every-day use. I have known many who could not write their own names correctly.

J. T. G.—We do not have much white farm labor here, and the colored is very unreliable. As soon as they get a little education they quit the farm.

BERTIE.

W. J. C.—Moral status of farm labor bad, caused by bad system. The poor negro (and white, too) will steal his own cotton and sell it in seed to buy necessaries of life under the belief and advice that it is no harm to steal their own mortgaged crop. Low-principled white men who buy this stolen cotton are the worse men in society. They are for plunder, no matter who is the loser. The crop mortgage system is, therefore, a curse.

BLADEN.

R. M. W.—People in this section of the county generally poor, have little money, but make their own support. Land good. Farm work usually done by the family. Not much hiring except for extra work. There is no uniform system of hiring nor working hands. Every one has his own system.

D. W. T.—We have no labor organizations in this township; there is perfect harmony between employer and employee.

BRUNSWICK.

P. S. H.—The children of white tenants and poor land owners do not attend school much because of the inability of the parents to clothe them properly.

W. S.—There are some good farms and farmers in this part of the county, but I know of but two men in this community that are improving in farming, and they raise their own manure. Nearly all are getting worse. They are not industrious and do not give close attention to their farms. There is too much idleness among farmers. Money is very scarce among the masses.

E. W. T.—The farmers and farm tenants are in a bad fix. The merchants who furnish them with supplies charge such enormous profit that it is impossible for them to pay it and live decently, or even above want.

G. L.—Our tenants and their children are generally well provided for, though they scarcely ever pay out. We employ a teacher and give them the opportunity of sending their children along with our own, free of cost to them. This community is one of the most orderly, peaceable and enlightened in the county.

T. M. A.—The laborers need stability of purpose; they think when they begin in the spring that they will do it all this year. But their courage generally fails them before they get half through. The landlord needs improved implements and improved land; I don't know of an acre of improved land but what is paying the owner good interest. And it is better in some other sections of the county than in this.

BUNCOMBE.

L. M. H.—We need comfortable school houses, compulsory education with schools in the country to open November 1st and close March 1st, with short hours in school each day. It is often the case but always wrong that a large pupil is kept for hours killing time over a spelling book. That is no way to train up workers. They should be kept busy while in school, and not there many hours at a time. We need better roads and in the interest of the children and the poor I would add, *have a good path for pedestrians.* I have often wondered why the road workers, who are largely walkers, take no interest in the foot path.

J. A.—In this immediate section of the county farmers do not go much on the mortgage system. But are very hard up this year.

W. E. W.—Since the introduction of tobacco as a crop our farmers have steadily grown worse off. They do not make their own supplies. There must be a change before they prosper again.

BURKE.

S. McD. T.—Three bad crops in succession is the cause of rather poor condition of landlords and tenants. Some white farmers are accumulating. And the negro displays a keen desire to own a home. I have never known a negro to sign a deed. They buy but never sell land. The great drawback in farming is the spreading out over too much land.

CABARRUS.

G. R. S.—Tenants and poor land-owners are in a bad condition, caused principally by too much cotton and not enough grain. The landlord and merchants

who furnish supplies on time won't let them sow much grain—they want cotton; and having to buy on time, they have to do as the merchant or landlord says, and the result is, they do not often pay out, and when they do they have nothing left. Colored labor is a very poor dependence with us unless you are right along with them. Our schools are good and improving every year.

D. M. M.—There are only a few farmers in Township No. 7 that do not own their farms—even the colored do. The farmers, however, are in a poor condition, largely due to their keeping up the fashion of buying supplies on time and giving mortgage on crop.

W. G. N.—The tenant system is bad for any country. There are many tenants who care nothing at all for the interest of the landlord, and take no care of stock, land, or anything; get in debt one year, and leave in debt all they can. There are many landlords who cheat and swindle the tenant out of everything they can, and this promotes this carelessness and demoralization on the part of tenants. The whole system is bad and corrupting generally.

CAMDEN.

G. D. B. P.—The farmers in this county are bad off, owing to short crops three years in succession. They usually spend their crops before they are made, and are therefore much behind at present. They are working hard this year and buying less than usual, and prospects for a good crop are fine. There are very few women hired for regular farm work. The men are hired mostly for six to seven months by the month, and afterwards by the day, as needed.

N. G. G.—The laborers we have are very reliable.

F. N. M.—The principal hired labor here is colored and is very unreliable. They are not improving. The old negroes who were emancipated work very well and can be relied on to some extent; but the children who have grown up since have not been disciplined, and will only work when compelled to do so to obtain the necessaries of life. The problem of labor in the South is, to my mind, a very difficult one to solve. If our Legislature would reënact bodily punishment for vagrancy and petty larceny, it would do much toward the needed reformation. The improvident nature of the negro is having an evident effect upon the growing whites, who are becoming less industrious, and trying to live by tact and strategy.

E. M. DEF.—We raise no tobacco, but trucking is a new farming industry here, with promise of profit.

CARTERET.

J. S. S.—We are very small farmers in this township (Smyrna); hire very little. The most of the country people are fishermen.

W. S. B., JR.—I consider the condition of farmers better because of the fact that they are buying less and raising more manure, are working hard and living close.

J. T. E.—The condition of farmers is getting worse and worse every year. Bad crops and low prices have prevailed until we cannot afford to farm. Laborers are not very reliable; they can get a living without much work, and they are not very anxious to work, therefore.

G. W. E.—I say our condition is better than three years ago, because then we had hog cholera in addition to short crops; since then we have not had it here. But there has been very little improvement, and there will be little, no matter how good our crops nor how long we are exempt from hog cholera, so long as the crop lien law and the homestead law remains the same. If we would repeal these laws we would live hard one year and then we would be happy and independent people.

CASWELL.

A. G.—Laborers are very unreliable. The children of the old generation of blacks are idlers, not workers. The men who are making any money on farms now are those farmers who hire very little. but work their crop with their own children. Another difficulty here is the tobacco craze—make tobacco to buy everything else with. This is suicidal.

L. B.—There is great depression in this county. Tobacco, our principal staple, is no longer remunerative. I think unnecessary Federal taxation has had much to do with bringing about this state of things. Provisions scarce in the country and the mortgage system is increasing.

G. W. P.—There is some difference in the prices paid to white and colored labor. The whites are generally employed as foremen or managers, and get more wages because of this.

J. C. W.—I prefer colored labor to the white labor that can be hired by the month. Some of them are very thrifty and save money almost every year. Farmers of this county have seen the evil of all money crops, and are now giving more attention to grain and grasses, and we hope soon to see smoke-houses and cribs on every farm.

WM. H.—The farmers are not hiring as many hands as heretofore. They find they can't afford to feed them and pay even the small wages that are now paid farm hands. In many instances last year the crop of tobacco did not pay for the guano used on it. The farmers are, therefore, much cramped at present, and as a general thing are doing their own work.

CATAWBA.

J. E. C.—Hired farm hands as a rule are very inferior. The good ones soon save up something and buy a piece of land and goes to work for himself. Land is very cheap here, averaging around this neighborhood the past year $2.00 per acre. Any man can get a home that wants it.

J. S. B.—The need of all farmers, landlords and tenants, is to have the mortgage system removed. Their condition will be but little better until this is done and farmers can buy their supplies at a less per cent. than is now charged them. In my opinion the State could not do a better thing for the poor man than to abolish the homestead and crop lien law.

CHATHAM.

J. G.—There are more farmers buying meat and bread than ever before in this county. Three years ago we had a very short crop, but no shortage of bread—we had plenty. The need, in my opinion, is to get rid of that homestead law and

mortgage system that has gotten the people into habits of debt and indolence, and in five years we will be all right again; we never will improve as it now is.

J. A. H.—The C. F. & Y. V. R. R. running through our county gives stimulus to our people, giving us a near market. But it makes farm labor scarce.

O. T. E.—The educational interest of our people is growing better, as is the social and moral condition, but in financial condition they are worse than for some years past.

J. H. P.—Our school house is a good distance from many of our children and in winter they cannot go. Much of the short term that our schools are taught are thus at a time when they are the least benefit to the children.

J. A. A.—Children of whites work while colored go to school. At present there is quite a depressed condition seen and felt on every hand among farmers on account of short crops and low prices. There is much unrest and dissatisfaction. I have been on a farm for more than fifty years and I have never seen so much desire for a change. Farmers are moving to the towns, leaving very good farms to grow up untenanted. I do not see the boom that the newspapers say exists in this State. It must be in the towns. It is not in the country.

E. W. A.—The farmers are not only in a bad condition financially, but have well nigh lost all energy. They do not send to school simply from poverty and indifference. Many tenants have given up farming and gone to the towns, &c., to work by the day.

CHOWAN.

E. J. B.—The crops for three years have been very short and have not paid for production. Wages therefore naturally dropped a little. But since the rise in cotton and meat, wages have increased about 20 per cent. on account of the demand for labor.

CLAY.

J. W. S.—I think it about time we had a dog law for the protection of sheep. I also think we need to have a compulsory school law as much as any place in the United States.

CLEVELAND.

R. G. W.—Farming is carried on here about as well as anywhere else in the State, but very little clear money is made. Laborers as a rule do not care to save money; they delight in spending it at the stores. Interest in education is at a low ebb. Our public schools are of very short duration and are not well attended. I favor compulsory education.

J. G. W.—One of our needs is the removal of the homestead law or greatly reducing it, and restoring the old collection law, and do away with the necessity for crop mortgages and chattel mortgages. As the law now stands we are bound to give mortgages if we buy on time and the risk makes the prices necessarily high, and then if collection has to be forced by foreclosure of the mortgage the cost is very high and all these things keep folks poor. Take away the homestead and make people honest and responsible for their debts.

COLUMBUS.

R. J. H.—The colored schools do better than the whites. They are so much more numerous that they get nearly all the money. My land is very rich and perhaps the yield is a third more than is general in the county; value of one horse crop on my land fair season would be about $500.

E. W. W.—We need more system and coöperation among farmers and farm laborers. If we do not change our system of farming and dealing we shall soon be swallowed up by the commission merchants and guano men. It is cotton! cotton! cotton! buy everything and make cotton to pay for it. We must stop this system. We must make more and buy less.

M. W. P.—Some farmers are improving their condition; some are not and never will. Tenants who work usually pay out.

D. C.—Where labor is paid promptly and tenants are given a fair chance, they are doing well, and can be had whenever wanted. I have given you $350 as the value of a one-horse crop. Those who fall below it are behind the average. Those who keep good hands and good tenants are those who pay a fair price and pay promptly, and who provide good houses for their tenants.

S. A. S.—I believe there is a bright future for our farmers. They are getting some experience now that will be valuable to them. The farming interest is bound to improve; the necessity of the country will bring improvement.

W. H. S.—A decrease in wages has been caused by those things that have made the farmer unable to pay more—a high tariff, a gold standard of values, and merchants refusing to pay cash for produce of the farm. Many of the best hands have left here and gone South to work in turpentine, &c. Fertilizers and lien bonds are a curse to any farmer and should be abolished.

CUMBERLAND.

D. D. M.—I am this year casually compelled to attend to my own farm of eighty acres and the hands employed. I have abundant opportunity of acquainting myself with tenants and hirelings. Am sorry to say that I am more and more impressed with the almost insufferable inefficiency of farm labor, white and black. The causes are: 1st. Want of intelligence or common sense to do anything whatever. The only way to get good work is to see it done there and then every time. Three-fourths of laborers neither know nor care to know how to harness a horse or fix a plow to run properly. 2d. The next defect is want of moral character in almost all laborers. This may seem too sweeping—but so I find it. There does not seem to be one in twenty who cares whether his employer gets value for his wages or not. I could write a volume on my own crosses and losses from careless and almost unprofitable laborers. A first class hand at $14.00 to $15.00 per month is cheaper than the mass of laborers at $5.00 to $10.00.

W. H. E.—The condition of tenants is bad, but I think much of the fault is to be laid at their own door, because of their constant moving about from place to place. Those tenants who have remained at one place for some years have as a rule done well and are in a better condition than the movers. Hands are less reliable each year.

L. L. W.—Keep the stock law off of us; we can't live here without fences. If we were in a grazing country it would do very well, but we are not. It will put our people in the poor house to have to live under a no fence law now. I have travelled over much of this country, more than 10,000 miles the last six months and have learned much of the advantages and disadvantages of a stock law, and I say it will not do for our county.

CURRITUCK.

J. J. F.—The free schools are a curse to the State; the negroes get the largest share of them, and it is a fact that as soon as you give a negro a little education he is no longer fit for work.

DAVIE.

E. F.—In my opinion, tenants do not work close enough nor live with as much economy as they should. They take very little care of the land and often neglect their own crop to work for somebody else; run in debt, get behind and move; next year repeat the same thing and so on. They will get round after awhile and will then come back to you with new promises and not long before they are on the go again. It would be a blessing if tenants and laborers could be made to stand by a contract. The landlord is bound and all he has got can be held to pay the wages. Ought not there be some way to hold the laborer too? As to the schools, I think we should have four to six months free school every year in every neighborhood. It could be done if the money now spent to educate young men who are able to teach and help themselves, were given to the free schools of the State.

A. W. W.—I am satisfied that tobacco has been produced at an actual loss in this section for several years past. The immense drainage for fertilizers has been telling heavily on the country's prosperity for several years. A certain amount of good fertilizers will pay; but worthless fertilizers have impoverished the county and in addition to that people are not as industrious as they used to be. Tenants are as a rule indolent and thriftless; they spend their earnings for dress and unnecessary show, &c. In times of comparative plenty it is almost impossible to get them to do anything beyond what is actually necessary to save the present crop, even for pay.

WM. D. M.—There is no system in farming or hiring, and hands getting to be very unreliable. They will break contract and leave you when their work is most needed. There should be a law to prevent this.

W. H. H.—There is no difficulty about getting proper work out of hired labor if you will stay in the field with them—but if you go fishing and hunting or to town half the time, little work will be done. For tenants I prefer white men; for wage hands colored.

S. A. W.—Our condition is unusually bad this year caused by freshet and short crop last year.

DAVIDSON.

W. C. G.—The farmers are very hard up, this year some worse than usual; we have got to raise more and buy less before we get any better off. No man can

make cotton or tobacco now to buy meat and bread with. He will fall behind every time it is tried.

N. W. B.—There is a change taking place among the farmers, and we hope it is for the better. The inclination is to plant less cotton and tobacco and make more supplies. I have learned one thing in my experience in dealing with hired labor; it pays to be kind and considerate to the hireling; they will work better and stay better.

D. F. S.—The condition of farmers bad indeed, and the prospect ahead not encouraging; present crop not very promising now and tenants have to work out to make rations and of course they cannot make full crops; merchants won't trust them. The working class have nothing on hand and the colored laborers don't seem to care about laying anything up one year for the next; if they have anything left in the fall they will not take care of it, but will usually spend it all before the year is out for dress and unnecessary things.

A. S.—The country needs a better system of hiring labor, educating the children and working public roads. There is nothing that would enhance the prosperity of the country more than good schools and good roads.

DARE.

G. W. O.—The condition of farmers in this county has not improved much the past three years, but they are working hard and living close this year and the prospect ahead is encouraging.

DUPLIN.

M. M.—It is difficult to arrive at anything like a correct answer to some of your questions, as there is such a wide difference in the industry and thrift of tenants, also among the land-owners as to the per cent. they charge their tenants on supplies furnished them. I have tenants that I furnish the cash to buy what they need and charge them eight per cent. on the money, and they buy entirely for cash. I have others that it would not do to furnish with money; they would spend it for things not necessary, and leave their supply of provisions short. Some tenants go much above the amount I have put down as the value of a one-horse crop ($425.) I have one tenant who runs a one-horse crop and makes fifteen to twenty bales of cotton, and his corn and meat beside. I think the tenants in this section will be better off at the end of this year than at any previous time, as three very poor crops have caused a stringency in the credit system with our merchants and caused farmers to stay away from the stores and stick close to their farms, cultivating their crops better and at less expense. The credit and mortgage system, heretofore so much practiced by our merchants, has been a very decided injury to our agricultural interests in this section, damaging both to landlord and to tenant.

A. M. F.—Good crops; rather much rain for cotton, peas and potatoes. Very little money among the farmers; not much to pay with.

W. E. H.—Most of the white farmers own farms, and those who work their land themselves, or with hired help, make most. I do not think there is any money now in running large farms with overseer. I made $1,000 more off my farm by attending to it myself, and shall do better this year.

B. J.—The farmers here usually own small farms; they work hard themselves and usually make enough to live on, and not much clear.

J. A. B.—I think the average production of a one-horse farm in this neighborhood will not exceed from two to three hundred dollars. Many good farms produce much more than this, others less. There is very little clear money in farming now. There is rather more advantage to the laborer than the landlord at present prices. In 1885 I cultivated a two-horse crop with hired labor, and a net calculation of expenses and production showed the product of the farm to be twenty dollars over the cost. Had mixed labor, white and colored. A neighbor of mine (Mr. C.), in 1885, hired a young white man for $8 per month and board, for 12 months. At the end of the year the man would not hire for wages again, as he had spent his wages, and wanted now to farm for himself. Mr. C. then proposed to rent him a one-horse crop of his best land, furnish him team and tools, for one-half the crop, and board him at $5 per month, and another man to work with him at same price. At the end of 1886 Mr. C. proposed to the young man that he cast up his accounts and see how much he had made. Upon striking a balance it was found that he had made what was equal to $3 per month in wages, and Mr. C. says he worked harder as a tenant than he did at wages. My opinion is that every business is depressed by a protective tariff, railroad monopolies, and national extravagance in disbursing public funds. Our North Carolina State taxes are moderate. I enclose you a calculation of the per capita of each citizen of the United States, based upon the Tenth Census.

Per Capita Tax of a Citizen of the United States for the Year 1880, *and Voters' Tax, as Taken from Census of* 1880, *allowing One Voter to Five Inhabitants:*

		Voters' Tax.
The gross amount of railroad receipts for the year 1880, which of course the citizens pay, were $661,295,391. This amount, divided by fifty millions people, gives each	$13 1/5	$66
Annual tax collected by U. S. Government, $300,000,000	6	30
Total tax collected by the State Governments, $300,000,000	6	30
For protection (Tariff), estimated $600,000,000	12	60
	$37	$186

Reliable statisticians say the amount paid for protection by the people is $800,000,000 annually. The Tariff forces the people annually to pay $6 each to the rich manufacturers—more than England would furnish the same goods for. The cotton crop of the South would bring three hundred millions dollars in such goods as we are bound to have, under a free-trade tariff, for which we now get two hundred millions dollars; one hundred millions go from the cotton crop to enrich Northern manufacturers yearly. The people of the United States make the cheapest farm products, as evidenced by our products holding the markets of Europe; and our people will prosper when we have a constitutional tariff and when all monopolies are regulated by laws just and fair for all—equal rights and equal chances for all and special privileges for none. As our national products are the cheapest, it is our inalienable right to exchange for the cheapest of other nations' products; and we will have no prosperity until we break the yoke of the rich manufacturers and monopolies from off the necks of the people. There were 17,670,000 laborers seven years ago in the United States, and only

2,700,000 benefited by protection. The lawyer, the doctor, the mechanic, the preacher, school-teacher and the farmer are all slaves alike to the manufacturer and monopolist. J. R. Dodge, Washington statistician, says the per capita product annually of a United States citizen is sixty-four dollars, while the per capita product of British India is eight dollars for two hundred millions people. We have no formidable competitors in the European markets for farm products, and the Europeans say the best protection for manufacturing is cheap food. Wheat is worth sixty cents at Chicago and one hundred cents in England, and manufactured articles are worth fifty cents more in this country than in Europe, when, under fair and just laws, it would—or ought to be—*vice versa;* or at least equal.

DURHAM.

W. M. B.—This is a tight time here; nearly all are in debt because of the low price of tobacco. There is not so much demand for farm labor as heretofore.

F. M. B.—The needs of the farmers are many, and the reliability of labor very uncertain.

J. C.—Very few farmers are in a good condition. Even the landlords are in a bad fix, and tenants worse.

J. W. U.—We depend too much on guano—not enough on brains and muscle. There must be a change; farmers must give more attention to supplies, or we are doomed to remain poor.

J. L. P.—Tobacco has been poor in quality and low in price for two years, and we are therefore very much pressed financially just now.

W. J. S.—Tobacco the main crop. The past two years the inferior quality and the low prices have seriously hurt landlord and tenant.

EDGECOMBE.

E. C.—The colored laborer's great trouble is whiskey. It is a safe estimate to say that one half the cash that is paid him on farms goes for drink. They do not get all cash, it is true they take more or less provisions and trade, but if they want it they can get the cash at the end of each month; no laboring man is required or expected to take trade or orders unless he wants to. They are also wanting in skill and although they have had the benefit of common school education, they are poorer and poorer workers every year unless intelligently directed; a little agricultural and mechanical education would be of far more benefit to them.

FORSYTHE.

J. G. F.—As to the per cent. that is charged for supplies I cannot say; in some places it is very large, the effort seems to be to get all that is made beyond a bare living for the tenant.

FRANKLIN.

B. H. W.—I think the principal causes which prevents the landlord and tenant from becoming prosperous is: 1st. The failure to raise supplies at home. 2d. The large per cent. the merchants charge them for supplies on time, for in most cases they both have to buy on time.

A. J. P. H.—There are but few colored people in my immediate neighborhood, and as a rule they are very good hands.

S. M. S.—There is general demoralization among all classes of agricultural people, landlords, tenants, wage workers and all. Farming interest is at a lower ebb than for fifty years; I believe the remedy is in stopping the tenant plan, work good hands on wages, pay good prices, raise home supplies.

GRAHAM.

C. R.—We are badly in need of a railroad, good schools and better public roads.

W. M. T.—Our tenants are reliable highminded people, as good people as we have in the community.

GRANVILLE.

G. T.—You can see we are in a bad fix when I tell you that farm labor is not to be depended on at all. If a man has to hire labor to make a crop he had better quit.

P. R. H.—Farm laborers in this county like mechanics and teachers are paid (to a limited extent) for their ability and judgment in farm work, etc. Tobacco is our staple crop and governs prices of labor to some extent. The notorious mortgage system so extensively practiced in cotton sections is beginning to infest this section. The farmers of this section (I am sorry to say) paid so much attention to the cultivation of bright tobacco for the past decade, that education has been fearfully neglected; much more so in my observation than in cotton raising sections of the State. The morals of the people are I am glad to say improving steadily. We have had some blockading in the county, but the change of administration has put an end to that.

GUILFORD.

E. L.—There are too many people running around trying to make a living out of the people without work. You will see a fellow coming along about dinner time with a small outfit for taking pictures and before you know it he has got his dinner and a dollar out of you and you have got an inferior picture. Another comes along with a jug of paint and a brush and he stays all night and so it goes; the poor farmer is the victim of all these classes. Our people are farmers and generally good ones too, but have very little system about hiring or about work. Many of our present failures in farming is I think due to this fact.

J. E. C.—Our needs are many but I think chiefly we need to learn to put system into our farming; we exhaust our land by cropping it heavy every year and never letting it rest; we should learn to sow grasses and clover and rest our land with these crops. There is a want of confidence in men of thought and progressiveness on the part of our farmers.

HALIFAX.

J. H. P.—Colored labor, when left to their own control, is generally very unreliable.

W. W. K.—The country is in a depressed condition. The high tariff is at the bottom of it; it is sapping the life of the country.

S. J.—Farm employees are not required to trade but they will do it if allowed, generally taking up all their wages and more if permitted. There is not that demand for hands that we have had heretofore. In making out my report I have had the assistance of two of our prominent farmers and we think it will apply to the county generally.

J. P. T.—In most of cases there is no difference in wages paid to colored and white for same work; but some whites who are extra good hands get better wages. When tenants buy on time from merchants they pay 25 to 30 per cent. over cash prices. The morals of the colored people are not high, they need better teaching than they get. Their preachers are often men of low morals, oftentimes not so good as the people they preach to.

W. E. B.—The colored population is very religious but are not over pious. We have had a series of bad crop years for six or seven years, and the financial condition of our section is bad, but people have lived hard this year and have better crops and prospects. The public schools are more effectual than formerly—there is more interest by patrons.

HAYWOOD.

W. W. S.—Our people have gotten behind by raising tobacco instead of grasses and grain. They are turning away from tobacco now, and the prospect is better.

A. G. O.—Our people made a great mistake in turning from grass and grain to tobacco a few years ago. The result was, that but for the cattle sold this year the people would not have been able to pay taxes. They are going back to grasses fast now. There were more than one thousand bushels of grass-seed sold to the farmers of this county this year.

HENDERSON.

B. T. M.—Farmers are wisely turning their attention more to grasses, and find it a profitable crop. Cabbage is also a good crop with us: $150 to $200 per acre is often realized from them.

A. C.—Negroes are getting a mania for flocking to the towns. White children do not attend school with the regularity they should; want of proper clothing is often the cause. While the parents mingle with each other freely, however poorly clad, they will not let their children go among other children unless they are neatly clothed. White tenants and laborers are, as a rule, faithful to their work and good citizens; the negroes are shiftless.

HYDE.

G. V. C.—Those who pay cash for farm labor never have any trouble getting hands when they need them. There are many who cannot pay cash, and others who will not. They have more or less difficulty keeping hands, and the laborers are always dissatisfied. I think it the best rule to pay cash. I never allow any of my tenants to be compelled to make a lien or mortgage. If he needs supplies or money I lend it to him.

IREDELL.

G. F. S.—The improved methods of farming have increased the value of farms. Tenants are very much depressed now on account of successive short crops.

These failures have also discouraged, to some extent, all farmers; and those who have heretofore depended on farming with hired labor are not hiring much this year: so there are many without regular employment, and it is rather a hard time here at present, but no actual suffering. But withal there is displayed unusual energy and practical economy, and with the good crops now promised for this year, we shall be all right again.

JACKSON.

D. H. R.—Workers in this county are very reliable; very few ever go to the penitentiary from Jackson county. I think the colored people of this section, as a rule, are truthful and honest and faithful workers, as well as the whites.

T. W.—The tenants of this county are poor but honest, hard-working, reliable men, as are also the wage-laborers for the most part.

D. S.—Many of our farmers have been induced to try tobacco, but having failed to make any money by it, they have returned to the old ways.

W. R. J.—We prefer white labor.

JOHNSTON.

B. D. L.—Farmers are giving more attention to their farms than I have known them. They have their farms in better condition, have raised more home manure, have bought less on time, and planted less cotton and more corn, than ever before in many years.

D. W. A.—The condition of landlords and tenants not near so good as three years ago.

J. S.—Colored hand preferred and paid more for farm work.

J. J.—Few colored people in this immediate section. Laborers, white and colored, very reliable.

R. J. L.—I regard the condition of farmers as much improved over three years ago, notwithstanding the hard times. Tenants are somewhat better off and are much more careful than heretofore. The children are not sent to school as they should be. There is much indifference on the part of parents in regard to this matter.

JONES.

B. B.—What we need as farmers is more energy and economy.

J. F. W.—The tenants here are mostly colored; the stock they work is usually bought on time from some horse jockey and the crop pledged for same. If he has anything left in the fall he is generally cleaned up in this way. Then the horse dies and the man has got to start again. Thus the country is impoverished. The whites do not give as much attention to schools as the colored. Rent of land is usually one-third of corn and one-fourth of cotton produced.

H. C. F.—The agricultural interest is so complex that it is impossible for general questions to reach all the different conditions of things; to get at the truth each class must answer for themselves. I am a landlord and cannot answer for tenants and laborers, nor can one of these classes answer for the other. I can only give my opinions and impressions. I rent out my land and furnish nothing, and think it is best for me. Others think it is best to cultivate on shares, others

with hired labor. Land, landlords, tenants and laborers are so different that each has to choose for himself as to which plan is best suited to his case. The landlord, who is at the bottom of all agricultural interest or operations, is not at all times what he should be, but he has much to contend with. The tenant has his troubles, and thinks the world goes harder with him. The laborer has his days of anxiety and winters of discontent, and sometimes thinks it is not far over the hills to the poor-house. The fact is, all of us have our troubles and have to fight with desperation the hungry wolf from our doors.

J. P.—I have been here twenty years. I bought land on a credit and set up a tent in the woods. I have now the best farm in the neighborhood, and the best cotton-gin and machinery. I was born in England. To get the work of four men I usually keep six in sight, as they will not all come every day in the week. I have tried paying better wages, but got fewer days' work by it. I have also tried offering a premium to induce every day's attendance, but could not get it. I believe the negro laborer, as a rule, are too well satisfied with his present condition to over-exert or stint himself for the purpose of betterment. The only man I have who saves anything is a white man and a foreigner. I have not had him a year yet, and of course do not know how he will stick. I pay him the same wages I pay the negroes.

S. O. H.—The parents of white children are oftentimes very negligent about the education of their children, and do not take advantage of even the poor opportunities that they have.

LENOIR.

W. L. K.—This section of the county is very fertile producing cotton, corn, wheat, oats, rye, &c. The average production of cotton for the county is nearly a half bale to the acre, in this immediate section we average much more than that. I pay my hired men in cash monthly and women weekly. Furnish supplies and money to my tenants and charge them from 8 to 12½ per cent. advance on it. They usually pay out and have a profit. Some tenants prefer to trade independent of the landlord which of course, he is at liberty to do, and he generally has to pay pretty well for his independence, the merchants usually charge 25 to 100 per cent. and take chattel mortgage on everything tenant has.

LINCOLN.

J. A. M.—We have hard work getting hold of enough money to run our crops on; we cannot borrow money at 8 per cent. and we are not able to pay more, we have to pay our hands off in store orders, which is bad for us and worse for them.

J. G. M.—Farming done principally on shares here: the land generally commands one-third. There has been no profit to landlords or tenants in three years on account of crop failures.

R. M. R.—Landlords, tenants and all are in a bad fix this year owing to crop failures last year; but all are working well this year and are hopeful.

M'DOWELL.

J. H. G.—The greatest trouble in this part of the country is getting farm laborers who will work regularly; they are too fond of a change, as a general thing they

have no stability, and that keeps back the improvements that should and would be made on the farms. If this could be remedied it would improve the condition of the laborer as well as the farmer. Regular, constant work is what is needed on the farm. To plant a crop with such uncertainty of labor as we now have, is a very risky business. The farmer has no tariff to help him out as the manufacturers have, but must stand up alone and for himself and bear all the burdens that privileges to others entail upon him. I want fair dealing and equal burdens upon all, no oppression of one class for the benefit of another.

J. S. B.—Crops are not sold for cash in this county; it is mostly exchanged for needed articles of merchandise.

J. H. G.—Labor in this section is inefficient and unreliable and working land by tenants has become a necessity, but it is a bad thing for any country; the land runs down and farmers become unstable.

MECKLENBURG.

W. H. O.—In winter the children of laborers are kept from school for want of proper clothing which they cannot supply. There has been some increase in price paid labor and at times it is somewhat difficult to get good hands for farm work because of the demand at the mines. There is no difference in price paid to white and colored farm labor.

S. W. R.—The improvidence of the negro is proverbial; they are nearly all users of tobacco and many of the children of very tender age use it; I have known them to use tobacco at four years of age; not an unfrequent thing for negroes to buy tobacco when there was no bread in the house and no money left to buy it.

H. D. S.—The farmers of this county are poorer than they were fifteen years ago. I will mention what I think has contributed to their poverty in the order of their magnitude: 1st. The credit system in which the farmer pays from 40 to 75 per cent. for six or seven months' credit is enough within itself to keep him down to the bottom. 2d. Then he pays several times too much for his manure. My observation is that the farmers who use commercial manures are growing poorer and poorer every year. 3d. Want of economy, extravagant living is the next greatest evil to be overcome. I raise all the manure I use, I do not buy a pound, and I have been averaging about 400 pounds lint cotton to the acre for several years; I favor the intensive method of farming and use part of my land in cattle raising; I buy calves and young cattle and grow them for milch cows and beeves to sell and have all the manure carefully saved.

T. G.—In my opinion one of the greatest drawbacks to the farming interest is the making of cotton too much of a monopoly on our farms, to the neglect of grain, grass, etc., etc.; our soil is susceptible of growing abundantly for the needs of both man and beast.

MONTGOMERY.

A. L.—While times are hard this year and provisions scarce, still I think gradually we are improving as a class.

D. Q. E.—The farmers generally are in debt owing to the failure in crops last year and the two preceeding years were also short. Last year we did not make

half crop and used guano to a large extent. This article has been used more and more the past few years and in my opinion has helped largely to keep the farmer down.

T. S. N.—Labor is less reliable than in the past.

B. G. M.—Our lands do not suit cotton and still we plant it and fail to make it pay every year. Our upland is all well suited to growing grain and tobacco. The morals of the people are good, and they only lack real energy directed by intelligence to make them prosperous.

J. T. M.—The price paid to labor is small but it does not pay the farmer to hire at that; we who farm with hired labor are not paying expenses by 10 per cent. every year. This is a fact as ascertained by a close calculation of the expenses and production on eleven farms in this neighborhood.

J. W. E.—There are not many white hands hired in this neighborhood, most own small farms and do their own work. Farmers are hard pressed this year because of the crop failure last year, but are striving harder than ever.

G. M. B.—Farmers are using more economy this year than usual and are working hard.

R. T. R.—The great need of farmers is a better understanding, they follow the old practices of farming without trying to improve them, using the same kind of tools and system of thirty or forty years ago. Farmers are slow to adopt new things, new methods, etc. They don't sow clover nor grass, take no care of cattle or sheep and depend solely upon cotton to better their condition and getting worse each year. The plan of buying large tracts of land and renting it to tenants either white or colored is ruinous to farming and will eventually break up the owner of the land; it demoralizes the negroes and renders them unfit for farm hands, for they are too careless and shiftless. Under good management the negroes are the best farm hands we can get, but they need to be taught and directed always. They are improving slowly-

MOORE.

J. A. O. K.—Owing to crop failures and misdirected effort farmers and workers are having a tough time this year. Many are cutting loose from the mortgage system and more land planted in grain this year than usual, both of which are good indications.

H. C. D.—As to the needs of the farming class, my opinion is that they need to go to work in real earnest and rely upon their farms and stay on them and stop buying bread at high prices on lien bonds. If this were done our country would be blessed with plenty.

J. J. E.—Colored labor used on farms principally; they are not very industrious, want to idle more or less; they are not much concerned about bettering their condition. The demand for labor is not very strong this year. The wages of farm hands have not declined while the prices of farm products have declined very much the past year.

J. W. S.—The tenant system is injurious to both landlord and tenant, the country would be better off if it were discontinued; my experience is that few

men work as well under their own management as tenants as they did when working for wages. They idle away much of their time around railroads and towns. I believe it would be best for all classes if all who do not own land should work for wages or a fair proportion of the crop, under the direction of the owner of the farm.

NORTHAMPTON.

E. B. L.—There is some scarcity of labor for farm work owing to the demand by railroads for good hands; then there are many who do not care for regular work; they prefer to work by the day here and there and have plenty of time to rest. This class will not work more than half the time.

P. H.—The lands in this neighborhood will admit of high fertilizing and cultivation and can be made to produce large yields of cotton, corn, wheat, oats, peas, clover, etc. We have some lands that produce a bale of cotton to the acre. The average value of a one-horse crop in this county I think will be about three hundred dollars, though the land is capable of producing much more and many farms do average much more than this. The rent charged for land alone is usually one-fourth the products. More than half—I suppose I might say fully two-thirds the tenants buy supplies on time, for which they pay an advance of 33⅓ to 50 per cent. At least one-fourth never are able to pay out.

W. P. V.—Colored labor preferred on farms and get more money wages because it is not so expensive to feed them. Nearly all hands are very dependent this year, having so much rain last year they made nothing scarcely, they are badly behind. I regret to say that as a class they are very improvident, they loaf about the villages too much; nor do they regard a contract, they are usually fully up to, if not ahead of their wages and will quit you on the most trivial ground and go hire to some one else. I pay my hands cash, but I do not think this is done generally.

J. W. B.—For three years prior to the last we made less than an average crop, last year was better than an average in this vicinity except on the Roanoke river low grounds where the crops were almost a failure on account of the June freshet which almost destroyed the whole crop and left the tenants in a very poor and dependent condition. Tenants have not prospered with us therefore on account of the several short crops, they live close and work well and are generally an honest deserving class with us.

ONSLOW.

E. L. F.—The free schools as carried on in this county are almost a humbug; the teacher gets his pay, but the children of whites do not attend much, so it is not to much profit that we pay tax to keep them up.

P. A.—The tenant system has been tried here and has not been satisfactory. The farmers in this neighborhood prefer to hire their labor. The laborers work better when working for wages. As tenants they are inclined to idle too much, neglect the crop and run in debt. None but hands known to be good can get land now. We therefore have more hired labor and can get hands whenever needed. We pay cash, which is a very great advantage to the laborer.

ORANGE.

M. A.—The condition of landlords has not improved in the past three years. There is more land under mortgage than ever before. Tenants have gotten worse instead of better. I think many of them indulge in whiskey, which leads to idleness and profligacy, ignorance and crime Rent charged here is two-thirds to three fourths the product. They buy supplies on time, for which they are charged an advance of 40 to 50 per cent. They usually pay out, but have nothing left. There is not the attention given to schools that we should see; ignorance of parents, perhaps, the chief cause. Average one-horse crop, value in money, $250.

PAMLICO.

J. B. T.—Our people are becoming afraid of debt and are working smaller farms on a cash basis, and when necessary, prefer to pay 18 per cent. for money rather than pay the usual time prices for supplies. They seem determined to work out of that ruinous plan.

R. D. M.—Our people are much discouraged. We have no system in farming. We cannot get hands that are reliable; they don't work regular—want to lose a day or two each week. The natural advantages are such that they can get a living very easy fishing, hunting, etc., and they don't want regular work. They know that when other means of living fail they can go to the water and get it.

PASQUOTANK.

J. R. E.—I would remark that in this flat country which has to be ditched so much, I think it is much easier for farm laborers to obtain day work and job work after crops are laid by than it is in the more hilly country. The laboring class reap much the largest share of the profits of the farm; I think they get from 75 to 90 per cent. of the profits made on the crops. I would suggest that more systematic and regular monthly employment would be better for both laborers and landlords. I remark that negroes especially are better off than heretofore; they dress better, live in better houses, and build better churches than formerly. I do not remember to have seen but one ragged negro on the road last Sunday, and he was a notoriously lazy fellow. If you can impress upon the laborers to seek regular monthly annual employment instead of day work, you will be a benefactor to both laborers and employers, in my opinion.

J. E.—Times are very hard; farmers are in straightened circumstances; but those who are fortunate enough to be out of debt are able to live now as well as ever, for while farm products are very low, everything we have to buy is low too. But it is a bad time to pay old debts. I know fifteen men in this section who have bought and paid for nice farms by their own labor in the past twelve years; but they have worked. Tenants do not work their crops well; as a rule they don't have good strong stock, and then they have to work out some to buy provisions. Chattel mortgages and buying old horses have brought them down until many of them are scarcely able to farm at all. The white children are kept at work on the farm often while the colored children are at school. But while they show more interest in education, the colored race seems to be going back financially and morally.

B. C. B.—In this county the farms are large and do not pay 5 per cent. on the tax valuation. It would be better if more of our farmers were land-owners; large farming is not profitable now. Colored labor mostly used here, and good hands rather hard to get; they prefer to job about in the towns and on public works, etc.

PERQUIMANS.

R. W.—More energy and perseverance is needed to make our people prosperous. There are many other causes for their straightened financial condition, but the farmers will never prosper until they are more energetic. If you can do anything to stimulate action your Bureau will be a blessing to the country. We might do it by offering a premium for the best or most per acre, etc.; this might stimulate energy in some, which would be likely to increase with time.

PERSON.

W. J.—In my opinion we have lived in better times than our children and grandchildren will enjoy. The morals of the rising generation is getting worse and worse. Laborers that are now growing up are not being taught how to work, nor how to show proper respect to others; they respect neither employer nor parents. Another reason why I think we have seen our best days is because tobacco, which is our main crop in this country, is down so low in price, and I think will never demand good prices again. It is grown all over the country now, and though it is common stuff, it fills the place of the better quality. There was a time when it was encouraging for any young man to start to farming, but the low prices of tobacco and the unreliable labor makes the work anything but inviting. Still there is one consolation: that is, the farmer who will work can always have plenty to eat if anybody has it.

PITT.

F. W.—I am sorry to state that labor grows less reliable owing to several causes. Under our present system we have but little organization, every farmer seems to have a rule for his farm and every set of hands under different discipline—instead of organizing as they should in every neighborhood and having a set of rules and regulations by which all would be governed. It would be much better for laborers as well as landlords. A very large percentage of our labor is colored, which, in my opinion, is the best for this country (or this section of the country), but under our present management is very uncertain and is continually growing worse, as the older hands, (who were taught to work while slaves) die out and become unable to perform their share of the work; the younger class have been brought up in idleness and have learned to be impudent, and a little sprinkle of education taken with it make them unfit to fill the places of their mothers and fathers. They are a great people for religion, but it seems to have but little effect upon their morals. Education should be encouraged and it is no doubt our duty to do all for them in that respect we can, but the more learning they have the less work on the farm they will do—after learning to read and write they must either teach school or go to preaching or some other thing to keep them out of the sun or from hard work, but with all this shortcoming, with proper discipline I prefer them to any other laborers.

G. F. T.—The condition of the laborers and the landlords is bad. The supply of labor is now more than equal to the demand and so there are a great many without regular work. The crop failures the past three years has reduced the number of tenants and increased the number of wage hands. Their moral condition is improving slowly. White labor is but little better than colored. Landlords nearly all live beyond their income and laborers try to follow.

J. K.—We are sadly in need of system and the proper grading of labor. Negro laborers live only for the present, they have no thought for to-morrow.

POLK.

D. P.—Ours is a fruit section that never fails, being in the famous Thermal belt, where frost does not come. Fifty thousand fruit-trees have been planted here in the last five years. We are located at the base of the Blue Ridge mountains, in one of the healthiest and most fertile sections of the State.

J. G.—I am a small farmer, have been farming about thirty years. I have made some money every year, and have improved my land by sowing pease and clover. I sow clover, cut it two years, then turn it under and sow wheat. When I cut off the wheat I sow pease and turn them under with a large plow before frost. By this process I improve the land all the time, and it is ready for wheat or corn, or anything I choose to put on it. Many farmers don't try to improve their land, but run it down until it don't pay to work. There is often more in the man than in the land. Some men will starve out on a farm and sell it to a man who will go to work and improve the land and make a good living on it by industry and economy. Clover will pay. I sold $200 worth of clover-hay last winter. If a man has a good mower and hay rake it is not much trouble nor expense to save hay.

RANDOLPH.

J. W. S.—My farm is on the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad recently built into our county, and I find that hands lose much valuable time watching trains coming and going. It is sometimes quite difficult to get good hands for farm work. The negroes prefer the odd jobs about the towns and railroads. Crops were not good last year, and there was not much surplus. Tenants in many cases buy their supplies on time from the merchants, but most of them are supplied by landlords. Merchants charge from 10 to 25 per cent. advance over cash prices; landlords charge no advance over what they have to pay. A one-horse crop is worth in money about $200 at present prices.

H. M. C.—The extensive use of commercial fertilizers and the buying of supplies on crop mortgage is rather a new thing in this county, but is working its way among the people to an alarming extent. These two habits, I think, will ruin any people.

RICHMOND.

J. C.—We need to give more care to the subject of education. We must have better committeemen, so that we may be able to get the greatest amount of good for the money in hand. I have known colored committeemen who could neither read nor write. This should not be allowed. And it seems to me that there should be a law requiring a landlord to deal justly with his tenants. I am aware

that in some cases they take advantage of their tenants, and by charging high prices for their supplies, and by other means, get more from the tenant than is just. There should be no necessity for a law on this subject, but there is. This might be remedied by farmers' clubs if they were thoroughly organized.

D. L. R.—Something should be done to prevent merchants charging such high per cent. on supplies. Nearly every farmer in this community, landlord and tenant, has to buy on time; they have to pay from 25 to 50 per cent. advance on cash prices, and sometimes even more. I have seen a man charged $7 for a barrel of flour on time; at same time have have seen the same man sell the same flour for $4.75 cash. Anybody knows farmers cannot live at that rate, and there should be something done to prevent it.

J. C.—Negro laborers I find the best for the farm. They are, as a general rule, ignorant, and are much imposed upon by some farmers, which is a shame to the farming interest; but it is true, and ought to be remedied. White hired hands are good laborers, with a few exceptions, but there is some work about the farm that I could never get white hands to do without complaining. We should try to keep the negroes with us. Immigrant, foreign laborers will not do for us on the Southern farms. We have very few such, and don't want any more. I think the outlook for the farming interest is encouraging. We have about taken the bull by the horns, and through our organizations—Farmers' Clubs, Alliances, etc.—have already accomplished some good, and will be felt in the future, I think. The farmers should coöperate with each other, and act in harmony with the laborers and deal honestly and justly with them, and the whole country will be built up. The merchant and capitalist have been boss long enough; it is time we should ask them to step down.

ROBESON.

J. B.—I have not used a pound of guano in two years, last year I was $200 in debt caused I believe by using expensive guano in 1885; so I left off guano entirely, did not use an ounce. My crop last year was as good as any around me on which guano was liberally used; I paid the two hundred dollar debt and all my other expenses. This year I used no guano and my crop looks as well as my neighbors', it has fruited well and I have no doubt it will do well. If you don't believe cotton can be made without guano come down here and I will take pleasure in showing you my crop. I can say for myself that I am in a better condition as a farmer than I was three years ago, done it by making my own meat and bread at home; I used to do like my neighbors, thought it was better to make cotton and buy everything elsé; I was mistaken about that; I also thought it was cheaper to buy guano than to raise barnyard manure. All a mistake as every farmer will find who tries it.

C. M.—Farm hands in this section are as reliable as at any time since the war. Colored labor is employed on farms almost exclusively and I think there is a gradual improvement in them.

J. W. C.—Generally speaking there has been quite an improvement around here in the last five years, but there is a tendency to live ahead of their means, this is so even when we have good crops. And it is evident that the accursed

mortgage system is responsible for it, and it will continue as long as this system prevails. I am glad to say there has been less mortgaging this year than usual.

T. I.—I am satisfied that employers themselves are responsible for much of the idleness of laborers; they loaf with them, talk with, joke with, tattle about others, etc., when he is not with them they continue to spend the time in the way they have been taught. I hope we shall improve in the management of hired labor by going to work ourselves and setting them an example. We have in this county about twenty-five organizations of the Farmers' Alliance. The first organized in the State was in this county at Ashpole.

ROCKINGHAM.

W. D. H.—White labor is hard to get and colored very unreliable; some exceptions to this rule and are first class hands. Nearly all reliable white men own their farms.

J. V. P.—Farmers are working harder than ever before, grasses is substituted largely for tobacco. The landlord and tenant need to show more interest in each other; landlords speculate too much on tenants, and tenants show too little interest in the rights of the landlords; they will not keep up fences nor ditches and seem entirely indifferent as to the condition of the land.

ROWAN.

J. L. S.—The lands of this vicinity are being brought up to a high state of cultivation by the sowing of clover and other grasses, which process for the past ten years has more than doubled the valuation of property. The good work is still going on and land once considered worthless is being reclaimed and brought into active cultivation.

T. J. S.—From my experience with colored laborers I prefer them to the white for farm hands; they are best under all circumstances and equally as reliable as the whites who hire themselves in that way, they work more cheerfully and are less disposed to complain; if they could be induced to exercise more authority and control over their children and learn them to work and demean themselves properly we should want no better class of labor. The greatest evil inflicted upon any community is the mortgage system now so very prevalent; this results from the homestead law.

RUTHERFORD.

W. W.—Farmers, though much discouraged by past failures, are working hard. Crops are looking well this year.

W. H. H.—Work day is generally 10 hours. This county is improving; have two railroads and a large factory is being built now to manufacture cotton. We have short terms of schools every year, only about two months; it is impossible to keep up the interest in education with such short terms.

SAMPSON.

A. L.—The farmers have in many cases rented their land out to croppers and tenants until the land has run down badly. Tenants as a rule take no interest in

care of the land and will not work in the winter. Our schools are usually held in winter when most poor children cannot go for want of proper clothing.

M. L.—This vicinity is the most independent farming people I ever saw: no great wealth, but all have comfortable farms of their own and make everything they need. Have few tenants and not many colored people. There were very few slaves in this neighborhood before the war, why I do not know, but I think we are better off on account of it.

STANLY.

M. E. B.—Labor is plentiful, but for years, there has been little improvement and is not reliable and the farmer can't get it interested in farm work, consequently none but he who is an every-day watcher of the strokes on the farm can possibly succeed in tilling the soil, even the small farmer and tenant who manage for themselves will not vie with the progress and improvement of the times, but go fishing, hunting, &c., and neglect a living. This state of things is general and much to be deplored, it is detrimental to our every interest, financial and social. It is hard to reach and awaken to energetic work this class of small farmers, they do not read what is written on the subject nor hear what is said, but they are very important to our country and should be reached by some means.

V. M.—There are very few farmers making any clear money, by working hard they manage to come out about even. There has been some improvement in farming and the yield has been increased by the use of guano, but the fertilizers cost so much and cotton is so low that the farmer gets no profit from it. I think farmers in the South raise too much cotton, they need to diversify their crops more. Our people are somewhat demoralized by the mortgage system brought about by the homestead law.

STOKES.

A. M. B.—If the farmers of this county could only be induced to plant less tobacco and more corn and sow more grain and grasses, raising their own manures, I know we would have one of the best farming sections in all the land. As to farm labor, we shall have to educate them to do better work than is done now before it is profitable to farm with hired labor.

SWAIN.

S. B. G.—A few years ago there sprung up here a great tobacco fever, many men thought they were going to get rich on tobacco raising right away; about one out of twenty have succeeded in making some money at it, the balance fell in debt and are turning from it to the natural products of this country, grain and grasses. They are likely to do well now.

H. J. B.—The moral condition of farmers is good; the educational interest is improving slowly.

TRANSYLVANIA.

J. A. G.—We need capital to develop our lands, which are good enough. We can raise corn, wheat, rye, potatoes and cabbage in abundance; can grow twenty thousand pounds of cabbage to the acre. Our laborers are willing to work, but on account of the scarcity of money, cannot get regular employment.

T. N. C.—I cultivate my farm with improved machinery, and average more per horse than is usual. I think the average value of product of one-horse farm here is about $225.

TYRRELL.

J. C. M.—Tenants and wage-workers are generally reliable with those who deal justly with them. I prefer colored labor. I am sure that much of the discontent and moving from place to place among tenants and laborers arises from the failure of landlords to provide properly for their comfort. I provide for this and try to see to it that my tenants save something from one year to the next. Then they are not cramped to death in summer and obliged to leave their own crops and work out to get a little rations. If I get a tenant who will not try to save, I get rid of him.

E. L.—We have very few good tenants; for that reason the tenant system does not pay much here. We have many small farmers who own their farms.

UNION.

J. S.—I think nine-tenths of the farms of this county are under mortgage.

R. B. R.—The prevailing opinion in this county is that the farmers are in worse condition than at any time since the war.

J. W. B.—The farmers, tenants and laborers of this county are in bad condition financially. And I think will never be any better off as long as the crop mortgage system prevails. Our farmers will never get ahead as long as they have to pay such outrageous prices for suppties. They cannot buy for cash, for they have not got the cash.

WAKE.

W. H. C.—White labor is not hired for farm work much, for they can generally do better if they are much account. The tenant system is fast playing out here, for the reason that they will not work more than about seven months in the year, and let the farm go to ruin. Farmers in this section are reducing their acreage and manuring with home-made manure more than ever.

W. H. B.—We need better farmers with more means; too many competent men leave the farms to get out of the sun, leaving their farms in many cases to be carried on by incompetent tenants, who have neither energy nor inclination to succeed.

I. S. B.—Farmers rely too much on guanos and crop mortgages, and hence are worse off every year.

G. W. R.—The whites do not send their children to school in many cases because they cannot clothe them as well as those more able, which is a wrong notion. The habit of tenants moving from place to place every year is a hurtful one to both landlord and tenant, and should be prevented. It makes them careless about land and stock. They cannot raise compost, and manure must necessarily be bought. This, and the all-money crop, is damaging both classes every year.

D. P. M.—The money value that I place upon a one-horse crop ($450) includes everything—potatoes, peas, garden, cotton, corn, and all. Our labor is colored,

and shiftless and thriftless. If they were steady and reliable they could have employment all the year. There is much depression among farmers, caused chiefly, I think, by continued and extensive use of commercial fertilizers, crop mortgages and unwise laws, together with unnecessary taxation and public extravagance.

J. M. C.—As a rule, tenants are forced to make a certain amount of cotton in order to get their supplies furnished them, and they cannot, therefore, pay the attention to making their bread and meat that they ought. Land-owners would give them a chance to raise their supplies, but a renter with a large family cannot get a starting place. He is bound to feed his family, and not having anything, he is bound to buy on time. To do this he must promise the merchant to plant a certain amount of cotton. Above all things else, deliver us from imported labor. Female help is somewhat scarce on our farms, for women that are worth anything to us as a rule have their own families and have plenty to do.

T. J.—The only hope for the farmers, tenants and croppers of the State is for them to apply themselves more closely to their farms and attend to the business the entire year, just as the merchants and mechanics do. Then reduce the number of acres cultivated gradually, and work into the intensive system of farming. Make home manure, plant a diversified crop, raise home supplies—especially sow grass and clover. There should be a new motto adopted: *Plant less*, MANURE MORE, and CULTIVATE BETTER. The time system—the source of almost half the ills, destroying the independence, moral courage, manhood, and hope of ever attaining to anything better, among the laboring class—ought to be abolished as soon as possible.

B. J. U.—The men who were trained before the war are much better help than the young generation now coming up. They have more stability and more respect for your wishes.

S. M. S.—The farming interest of the whole State so far as my information extends, is greatly depressed; farmers are in debt and discouraged, farms run down and farm labor that can be hired at ordinary wages is getting to be entirely unprofitable. In my opinion, the present tenant system has contributed more to this state of things than any other cause; under this system, so prevalent among our farmers for the past few years, good farm hands can scarcely be hired for wages at all, they have a mania for farming on shares, and the result is that good hands have degenerated into very poor, unsuccessful farmers, have taken no care of land or stock, and the landlord as well as the tenant generally suffers loss every year. The system ought to be abolished, the farms worked by good hired labor at good wages, hired by the year and improved machinery would pay the hand and the farmer far better. I believe a good hand is cheaper at $15.00 per month than a poor one at $8.00, and good hands generally cannot be had for poor wages.

P. A. D.—I think the condition of the land owner and tenant has been growing worse for the last fifteen years, for three reasons: 1st. The farmers have failed to make their supplies. 2d. They plant more land than they can cultivate, which causes short crops, and, 3rd. There is not more than one-fourth of our population that work the year through.

WARREN.

H. W.—The wages paid for farm labor are very little, but is all the work performed is worth to the farmer. In addition to wages, regular hands are allowed patches on which they make more or less truck; some of my hands often make on their patches from five to ten barrels of corn.

W. M. D.—Many farmers in this section have bought fertilizers and gone in debt, so far 'tis a hard matter for them to get even, but there are farmers in this community who started a few years ago on nothing who now own good farms and live easy, they raise their own manure and do without everything that they cannot pay cash for; they make home supplies and spend their time on their farms at work, not loafing around stores cutting sticks. I know one colored man who after the war had nothing but his family, had seven children, he worked hard, saved his money and now owns a nice little farm and a good team all paid for; the first payment he made on the land was $25.00 in coppers that he had saved from his melon patch. This is a fine country and by hard work on a cash system any one can live.

S. B.—The financial condition of the working people is very bad; they scarcely make a poor living. There is some educational improvement, but none in morality that I can see. The colored people are in the main unreliable. The general condition of farmers and laborers is worse than I have ever known; however, they are working with better spirit than usual.

H. B. H., SR.—Your questions are quite practical, but so varied, and so much depends on practical arrangements, to secure successful farming, that it is a difficult matter to give anything like a fair average of farming in our county. The common practice in Warren county is, that the land owners usually hire some hands for wages—(according to size of farm) and work the balance of the farm on shares; some rent for so much lint cotton or so much money. It has been my custom to hire from eight to ten hands for wages and work the balance of my farm mostly on shares—I furnishing land, teams, etc., and give one-half (½) of the crop; I have also made it a rule, from 1865 until now, to buy all of my needed supplies for cash and furnish to my hands at an advance of 15 per cent.; some planters have not been able to do this, but when able to do so, I think they charge about that rate; merchants charge an advance of from 30 to 40 per cent. and some of them as much as 50 per cent. Hands are generally disposed to spend all of their wages, but my rule has always been to pay half at the end of each month, in that way they always have some money at the end of the year; this is certainly the best plan and gives more general satisfaction than any other; unless the negro has some money at Christmas he is always dissatisfied. I thought from the beginning of our great change in farming operations (and time has proved the fact) that wages would be the only safe and practical way of successful farming. The share system can never work successfully; many of the best farms in this and other sections have been run down and well nigh ruined and exhausted by this system—white and colored laborers will do more and better work for money than any other system. Three causes, in my opinion, have brought about the depression which now exists with farmers, viz.: the neglect of making home supplies; the share or rent system and owning too much land. Before the war Warren

county was a "land flowing with milk and honey" (as it were). Prosperity in every direction! Not so to-day, from the causes above stated. The stock law is working well and will eventually be a great boon to laborers. I am in full accord with your Bureau, and shall be pleased to give you all the help I can.

WASHINGTON.

J. J. W.—The Scuppernong river, which runs through this part of our county, so frequently overflows the lands and destroys the crops, that we are not much encouraged to plant our best lands. If the General Government would make an appropriation and dredge out the river for ten or twelve miles it would remedy this trouble, and would also make navigable the river, affording our people an opportunity to get their produce to market. Then this would be one of the finest farming counties east of the Alleghanies. For three years we have been overflowed with the river; in 1885 we were not, and made very fine corn crops, averaging fourteen cart-loads to the acre.

WATAUGA.

T. J. C.—No cotton or tobacco raised here; mostly grasses and grain.

H. T.—The tenants and farm laborers are no doubt as prosperous here as in any part of the State, but they need to be impressed as they are not, with the importance of more attention to the education of their children.

W. L. B.—Most of farmers here do their own work, very few regular hands hired. The condition of tenants and laborers, as well as land owners is bad, worse than usual owing to short crops the past three years.

R. S.—The homestead law has made a dishonest generation; it is the curse of our State and no mistake; it is no help whatever to anybody: it ruins the very class it attempts to help; it costs honest people big interest to keep it up. The crops in this section are looking very well this year.

J. W. H.—Our farms are small and generally worked by the owners themselves; they don't hire much. Times are very hard with all, but no suffering. We have very few rich men and few really poor.

WAYNE.

W. B. F.—My experience leads me to say, avoid commercial fertilizers and use shell, marl and cotton-seed, stable manure and woods mould plentifully.

WILKES.

E. S. B.—Tenants and hired help are all getting more and more unreliable every day; still farmers who have energy and brains are improving gradually, notwithstanding the drawbacks. This improvement generally arises from a better system of farming.

R. G. H.—In many respects I think all are better off than formerly; not many have increased financially, but they have learned much about farming that will be profitable to them in the future. This knowledge is showing its value this year.

J. W. F.—Our neighborhood has improved very much in the past three years in various ways.

WILSON.

O. S. B.—In this section unreliable tenants are being routed out of the community, they that will not work, which I think is an improvement.

J. S. W.—So many of our farmers are moving to towns and letting their farms to tenants who take no care whatever of the land. The result is bad to land owner and to tenant also. Labor not so plentiful as heretofore—many have gone South. Educating the negro has been but little improvement to him, it usually unfits him for any kind of labor.

YANCEY.

W. P. W.—Our farmers do not work on an average more than half their time, try to cultivate too much land and use guano instead of raising their own manure. I have often seen the hog pens built on bank of a branch so that the manure might all wash away. We have no railroad facilities for marketing our crops and it don't pay to haul them so great a distance; we ought, therefore, to give more attention to grass and stock and cattle raising.

F. W.—We are by no means a self-sustaining people in this county, consequently we are forced to buy provisions from abroad more or less every year and we are not making anything to send out to bring up this deficit; therefore, the people of our county as a whole, are poorer and poorer every year, and if this state of things continue to exist the lands will all soon drift into the hands of a very few; the small land-owners can scarcely pay their taxes now; they are perhaps not as industrious as they should be, but the chief trouble is, they carry on their farming in such an injudicious way that the product of the farm affords a mere subsistence. Our soil is amply productive to make an abundance for all our people if it was cultivated and managed properly; for instance, I so work my own farm that it yields me twelve to eighteen bushels of wheat for every bushel I sow, while my neighbor makes five to eight; their soil is as good as mine naturally and what I do they could also do; they insist on the old style of farming, while I believe in small acreage and large yield. Improving my land and cultivating it well each year, the result is it pays me for my labor and the care bestowed.

YADKIN.

L. W. J.—The product of a one-horse crop in this county usually brings about $200 in cash but varies greatly, some very much more some much less, it depends on the land but more on the man.

P. S. E.—The tenant system is a bad one and has done the South much harm. There are so many little farmers who have nothing to farm on and hence the mortgage system which is eating up the country body and soul.

VANCE.

J. H. D.—The colored laborers are in many cases unreliable and dishonest and as a class are not disposed to accumulate property or lay up anything for the future. The whites in some cases are not ahead of the blacks in this respect, but on the whole they are better.

CHAPTER IV.

FARM TENANTS AND LABORERS.

The information collected in regard to farm tenants and laborers is to be found in this chapter. Many of the observations made by landlords in the preceding chapter are the same as those made by tenants and farm laborers. This is to be expected. Whatever concerns the landlord must of course be of interest to his employee. If the landlord prospers those employed by him have a chance to share in his prosperity. If the landlord stands still or goes backward, the tenant and farm laborer must share the same fate.

Most of the reports represent that the wages of farm laborers are smaller and the condition of tenants and farm laborers worse than it was three years ago, which is attributed for the most part to low prices and short crops. Nearly all the returns from farmers were received by the Bureau before the gathering of the past year's crop, which in most sections of the State was good. The good crops created a better feeling among the farmers of the State than has been known for several years. The prices obtained for the crop were also good; the prices of cotton and tobacco, the principal staples, were especially good. Then, too, the crop was made with greater economy than has been exercised by farmers for several years; so that more was realized and saved from last year's crop than has been saved from any one in a half dozen years. These facts have produced a better feeling among farmers than existed during the spring and summer when most of the returns from farmers were received. Still the reports fairly represent the condition of the farmers of the State. In a great part of North Carolina they are badly in debt, and it will take years of closest economy and good crops to free them from it. The bad crops for some few years past, and the low prices for farm products, together with the evil effects occasioned by a failure to raise home supplies, have caused a reduction of wages in a great many counties—in

fact, most of the counties of the State. There have been, of course, complaints made to the Bureau about the low wages paid to farm labor. The landlords admit that it is small, but they allege that it is impossible to pay more—that even at present prices the farm laborer gets by far the larger per cent. of the profit made upon the farm. The condition of the farmers in a great part of the State would seem to justify this conclusion. It has been quite a struggle to keep going even at present prices. It is certain that the farm laborer receives a much larger per cent. from the product of his labor than the mechanic, though the compensation of the farm laborer is confessedly small. No reasonable man can expect a landlord, or any other employer, to pay more than he is able to pay. The real question, then, in regard to the wages for farm labor, is, can more be paid for it than is being paid? Farming in North Carolina must be more profitable than it has been for this to be done. It is believed that this will be the case. The farmers of the State are fast waking up to new ideas, new aspirations and new methods. More farmers are raising their supplies now than at any time since the war; they are also diversifying their crops more; they are mortgaging less. Under these circumstances, and with good crops, their condition will improve, and better wages will be the consequence. Better wages can only come in this way. It is to be hoped that the ability to pay more for farm labor may be speedily increased. More pay is sadly needed.

The wages paid, as reported by tenants and farm laborers, is about the same on an average as those given by landlords in the preceding chapter. To the amount which is paid by the month is usually to be added fire-wood, and a few acres for garden and pasture purposes. The value of these make an increase of $3 or $4 per month upon the amount reported.

The table in this chapter shows that the public schools of the State are not kept open on an average more than three months in the year. The same table also shows that only about 45 per cent. of tenants and farm laborers can read and write. If this percentage of ignorance is to be lessened the number of months in which the public schools of the State are kept open must be increased. The well-being and progress of the State demands that the number should be increased. The State Constitution says: "Religion, mor-

ality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. * * Each county of the State shall be divided into a convenient number of districts, in which one or more public schools shall be maintained at least four months in the year; and if the commissioners of any county shall fail to comply with the aforesaid requirements of this section they shall be liable to indictment."

This mandate of the Constitution is not carried out in a majority of the counties of the State, notwithstanding its positive terms, as shown in the table. Why? The chief reason is that there is no public sentiment among the people which requires that it should be done. The people are not alive to the importance of education, and a great many of the reports say that the white people are not as keenly alive to the importance of education as the colored people. The attendance on the part of the colored children upon the public schools is represented in many counties to be better than that of the white children. This fact must be a matter of regret to every citizen. It will, of course, bear natural consequences in time to come. As surely as mind is superior to matter, so surely will mental culture assert itself sooner or later, and so certain will there be a retrogression of the ignorant. One of the greatest needs of the State to-day is a more wide-spread interest in the subject of public education—a public sentiment that will compel proper school facilities—one that will reach a parent that brings offspring into the world, and then utterly fails to make an effort to give them those school privileges which will enable them to take care of themselves in the ordinary business of life; one, too, that will reach a public officer who has a duty to perform in reference to public education and fails to perform it.

Upon this subject, Hon. S. M. Finger, Superintendent of Public Education, in his report for 1886, says: "Education at the expense of the State is a part of modern civilization. It cannot be successfully resisted. Especially is this so in a republican form of government, such as that of the United States. If there is any one thing that stands out prominently in the history of the country it is the stress that has all the time been laid upon the importance of education for the people. The Constitution of North Carolina says: 'The

people have a right to the privilege of education, and it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right.' This doctrine is fundamental and right, and therefore must have recognition. * * If those who complain of poor results would actively join the public school workers and help to manage the schools, better results would everywhere be attained. The public schools are here to stay, and they will be gradually improved—so improved as more and more to command the respect and patronage of our people. It is the part of wisdom for all good people to recognize these things as facts, and take an active interest in making the schools better. Let us have *a better sentiment in favor of public education*, to the end that the money we do pay may have the best possible application and results."

A healthy public sentiment on this subject is as much needed as anything else to insure the highest prosperity to the State. While North Carolina is making rapid progress in many ways, and while the attention of the people is being directed to the development of the State's material resources, too much attention cannot be given to this subject of public education. The State is particularly weak upon this point. The people need to see that there is as much wealth and strength to the State in her humble school-houses, if properly utilized, as there is in the railroads and factories, which seem to be claiming the attention of the people in many sections. There can be no permanent prosperity without them.

There are many interesting facts and suggestions in the table and the remarks in this chapter. Attention is called to them.

TABLE No. 5.

TABULATED STATEMENT OF FARM TENANTS' AND LABORERS' RETURNS, SHOWING AVERAGE RATE OF WAGES PAID, AND THE EDUCATIONAL, MORAL AND FINANCIAL CONDITION OF FARM LABOR IN NORTH CAROLINA.

TABLE No. 5.—RETURNS OF FARM LABORERS AND TENANTS, SHOWING AVERAGE AND GENERAL CONDITION, AS REPORTED FROM LABORERS AND TENANTS

COUNTIES.	WAGES FARM HANDS				Average per ct. of wages paid cash.	Av. p.c.p'd in merch'dse or st're ordrs	No. m'ths empl'yd.	Is there day work when not employ'd by month?	Is there an ov'r sup of farm labor.	Have wag's incr'sd any in p'st 3 years?	Have wages decr'd any in p'st 3 years?	Cause of increase or decrease.
	Ave. men per m'th with b'rd	Ave. w'mn per m'th and b'rd.	Ave. men per day and board.	Av. wo'mn per day and bo'rd.								
Alamance	$8 00	$4 00	40	25	50	50	12	yes	no	..	...	...
Alexander	8 00	3 00	50	25	50	50	6	yes	ov'r	....	yes	Failure of crops.
Alleghany	8 00	3 00	40	20	50	50	5	partly	no	....	yes	Bad crops.
Anson	8 00	4 00	40	30	40	60	9	half	no	...	....	...
Ashe	8 50	3 00	50	25	33⅓	66⅔	8	yes	no	....	yes	Three bad crops.
Beaufort	8 00	4 00	50	30	25	75	8½	yes	no	..	yes	Gen'l depression
Bertie	9 00	5 00	55	40	50	50	9	yes	no	yes	..	De'd by saw mill
Bladen	7 50	3 00	40	20	40	60	7	partly	no	...	yes	Don't know.
Brunswick	9 00	...	50	40	.	100	4	half	no	...	yes	...
Buncombe	10 00	...	50	25	50	50	11	yes	no	....	yes	Low price tob'co
Burke	8 00	4 00	30	20	25	75	9	half	no	...	yes	Crop failures.
Cabarrus	8 00	4 00	50	35	50	50	8	yes	no	.	yes	Short crops.
Caldwell	8 00	4 00	40	30	50	50	6	....	....	....	no	...
Camden	9 00	4 00	55	.	50	50	6	...	.	..	sme	...
Carteret	9 00	5 00	50	35	50	50	8	yes	no	...	...	...
Caswell	8 50	5 00	40	25	25	75	8	.....	no	..	yes	Low price tob'co
Catawba	9 00	4 00	40	25	75	25	7	yes	no	yes	...	Good farming.
Chatham	8 00	4 50	40	30	50	50	10	yes	no	....	...	Bad crops.
Cherokee	9 00	4 00	55	25	50	50	7	partly	no	sme	no	...
Chowan	9 00	5 00	60	40	75	25	10	yes	no	yes	...	R. R. work.
Clay	10 00	...	50	25	....	100	8	no	no	...	yes	Money depress'n
Cleveland	8 50	4 50	45	25	50	50	6	partly	no	....	20pc	Poor crops.
Columbus	9 00	4 00	45	25	50	50	7	partly	yes	no	yes	Hard times.
Craven	8 50	5 00	40	25	25	25	6	.....	no	...	yes	Poor crops.
Cumberland	8 50	4 00	50	30	50	50	8	partly	yes	no	yes	Short crops.
Currituck	9 00	4 00	50	30	50	50	7	yes	sup.	no	yes	Low price prod.
Dare	10 00	.	50	25	75	25	7	.....	no	....	....	...
Davidson	7 50	3 00	40	25	50	50	8	yes	yes	..	15pc	Droughts.
Davie	7 00	3 50	40	25	50	50	7	yes	no	...	yes	Gua.&chat.mort
Duplin	8 50	5 00	50	35	50	50	12	yes	ov'r	....	yes	Short crops.
Durham	9 00	3 50	40	25	75	25	12	yes	ov'r	...	yes	Low price tob'co
Edgecombe	8 50	4 50	40	25	50	50	9	no	yes	....	yes	Short crops.
Forsyth	8 50	4 00	50	25	50	50	8	yes	ov'r	..	yes	High tariff.
Franklin	8 50	4 00	40	30	50	50	8	yes	yes	....	yes	Short crops.
Gaston	8 50	5 00	60	40	50	50	8	partly	yes	....	yes	Low prices.
Gates	8 50	3 00	50	30	50	50	7	partly	sup.	yes	..	R. R. work.
Graham	9 00	...	40	20	25	75	5	partly	ov'r	yes	....	Lumber work.
Granville	8 50	3 00	40	25	50	50	8	partly	no	....	yes	Poor crops.
Greene	9 00	.....	50	25	50	50	8	yes	no	no	....	...
Guilford	9 50	5 00	50	30	50	50	7	partly	no	sme	...	...
Halifax	8 00	4 00	40	25	50	50	6	no	no	....	yes	Poor crops.
Harnett	7 50	3 50	40	30	50	50	4	partly	no	....	yes	Hard times.
Haywood	10 00	4 50	50	30	60	40	8	yes	no	yes	....	Gen'l impr've'mt
Henderson	9 50	5 00	50	25	40	60	7	partly	no	....	yes	Short crops.
Hertford	8 00	4 00	50	30	33	66	9	yes	no	...	yes	Low prices.
Hyde	10 00	4 50	50	30	40	60	7	yes	no	....	yes	Short crops.
Iredell	8 50	4 50	45	25	50	50	7	yes	no	....	yes	Short crops.
Jackson	9 00	4 50	50	25	50	50	6	no	no	..	....	...
Johnston	9 00	4 00	50	25	30	70	9	yes	no	....	yes	Short crops.

WAGES RECEIVED, RENT PAID, PRORORTION BUYING ON TIME, "TIME PRICES," IN THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES OF THE STATE.

A'y diff'ce in wag's to white and col'd?	What of crop does tena't receive who furnishes himself?	When land'd fur. land,&c., what p't does tena't receive?	Do tena'ts buy supplies on time?	What p. c. do they pay over c'sh pr'es?	What security is required?	Of 10 farm labore's or t'na'ts how ma'y will save p'rt e'm'g	Are they better off than three years ago?	What per ct. can read and write?	Are there public schools convenie't?	Average number months kept open each year?	Do child'n of farm labor's and tena'ts usually att. school?	Do tena'ts a'd farm empl'yees att. relig services regularly?
no		⅛	partly		----	5	some	75	yes	3	yes	yes
no		½	partly	20	lien	3	yes	75	yes	3	partly	yes
no		½	few	20	cm	3	some	66⅔	yes	4	partly	partly
no		½	m'stly	25	cm	3	yes	66⅔	yes	4	yes	yes
no		½	few	10	- ----	4	no	25	yes	4	-- ---	-------
no		½	yes	50	cm	1	no	50	yes	2	partly	yes
no		½	yes	20	cm	2	no	33⅓	yes	4	yes	yes
no		½	yes	25	cm	1	worse	25	yes	3	partly	partly
yes		⅓	many	30	cm	5	some	50	yes	2	yes	yes
no		½	partly	75	cm	. --	no	66	yes	3	yes	yes
yes	½ to ⅔	⅓ to ½	few	8	------	6	yes	75	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔ to ¾	⅓ to ½	yes	50	lien	3	no	40	yes	4	partly	yes
no	------	-- --	------	--	------	------	--	--	---	------	-------	-- --
no	⅛ to ½	⅔ to ¾	m'stly	40	cm	1	no	.	yes	3	yes	same
yes	⅔ to ¾	½	yes	20	cm	2	no	25	yes	3	yes	yes
no	¾	⅓ to ½	partly	25	cm	-- --	no	25	yes	4	yes	yes
no	½ to ⅔	¼	yes	25	cm	1	no	60	yes	4	yes	no
no	¾	½	yes	25	cm	1	no	50	yes	2	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	some	20	cm	2	yes	60	yes	3½	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	25	cm	1	no	25	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	20	------	1	some	70	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔ to ¾	⅓ to ½	yes	30	cm	------	no	50	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	50	cm	1	no	25	yes	-----	partly	no
no	⅔	½	yes	25	lien	1	no	33	yes	-------	yes	-- ---
no	⅔	½	yes	40	cm	------	worse	50	yes	3	partly	partly
no	⅔ to ¾	⅓	yes	25	cm	2	no	50	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅓ to ½	few	25	-----	1	no	50	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	25	cm	2	worse	33	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅓ to ½	yes	25	cm	1	worse	50	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅓ to ½	yes	35	cm	1	same	20	yes	4	yes	yes
no	¾	½	yes	50	cm	1	no	10	yes	5	no	no
yes	⅔ to ¾	⅓	yes	50	cm	1	worse	.	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅓ to ½	part	30	cm	3	same	50	yes	4	partly	yes
no	¾	½	yes	50	cm	1	no	33	yes	4	yes	yes
no	½ to ¾	¼ to ⅓	yes	30	lien	1	no	50	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	35	lien	-----	no	25	yes	2	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅛	no	--- --		2	no	50	yes	3	part	some
no	¾	½	yes	35	cm	1	no	20	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅓	yes	30	cm	2	no	--	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅛	yes	25	cm	3	no	50	yes	4	yes	yes
no	¾	¾		30	cm	1	no	50	---	-------	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	50	lien	1	no	50	yes	2	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	few	20	cm	5	yes	50	yes	4	yes	no
no	½ to ⅔	½ to ¾	yes	20	cm	2	no	60	yes	3½	yes	yes
no	⅔ to ¾	⅓	yes	40	cm	2	no	50	yes	4	yes	yes
yes	⅔ to ½	⅓ to ½	yes	40	cm	1	no	60	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅓ to ½	yes	30	cm	1	no	70	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	50	lien	----	no	10	yes	6	yes	yes
no	⅔ to ¾	½	yes	50	lien	2	no	75	yes	4	yes	yes

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	WAGES FARM HANDS. Ave. men per m'th with b'rd	Ave. w'mn per m'th and b'rd.	Ave. men per day and board.	Av. wom'n per day and bo'rd.	Average per ct. of wages paid cash.	Av. p.c.p'd in merch'dse or st're ord's	No.m'ths empl'yed	Is there day work when not employ'd by month?	Is there an over sup. of farm labor?	Have wages inc's'd any in p'st 3 years?	Have wages dec's'd any in p'st 3 years?	Cause of increase or decrease.
Jones	$8 00	$4 00	40	20	50	50	8	partly	no	----	yes	Fertilizers.
Lenoir	8 00	5 00	60	40	50	50	10	yes	no	----	----	----------
Lincoln	8 50	4 00	50	30	50	50	9	yes	no	----	yes	Gen'l depression
McDowell	10 00	4 00	50	25	50	50	9	yes	no	....	yes	----------
Macon	10 00	4 00	50	25	50	50	8	yes	no	----	----	----------
Madison	10 00	4 00	50	25	40	60	9	yes	no	----	yes	Low prices.
Martin	8 50	3 00	40	25	50	50	5	no	ov'r	----	yes	Bad crops.
Mecklenb'rg	9 00	4 00	50	25	25	75	8	------	no	----	yes	Gen'l depression
Mitchell	10 00	4 50	50	25	40	60	6	partly	no	....	yes	Scarcity money.
Montgom'ry	8 50	4 00	40	30	25	75	8	yes	no	--	yes	Short crops.
Moore	9 00	4 50	45	30	50	50	8	partly	no	---	s'me	Scarcity money.
Nash	7 50	4 00	35	20	33⅓	66⅔	7	partly	no	---	yes	Poor crops.
Northamptn	8 50	4 50	40	25	25	75	7	partly	no	----	yes	Low prices.
N'w Hanovr	----	-	....	...	...	...	..	------	--	----		----------
Onslow	8 50	5 00	40	25	50	50	5	partly	yes	----	yes	Short crops.
Orange	9 00	4 00	45	30	100	-	8	partly	no	----	yes	----------
Pamlico	9 50	4 00	50	30	40	60	7	yes	no	yes	----	Good ha'ds sc'rce
Pasquotank	8 00	4 00	50	25	50	50	8	yes	no	---	...	----------
Pender	10 00	5 00	50	30	33⅓	66⅔	6	partly	yes	...	yes	Ina.to pay more.
Perquimans	8 00	4 00	50	30	50	50	--	------	....	----	yes	----------
Person	8 50	4 00	40	25	50	50	10	yes	no	..	yes	Failure tob. crop
Pitt	8 50	5 00	50	35	100	---	9	yes	no	...	yes	Short crops.
Polk	12 00	5 00	50	25	25	75	12	yes	no	yes	no	R. R. work.
Randolph	9 00	4 00	40	30	50	50	7	yes	no	yes	....	R.R.and mills.
Richmond	8 00	5 00	40	30	25	75	8	------	no	----	yes	Short crops.
Robeson	9 00	.. -	50	35	25	75	9	yes	no	no	no	----------
Rockingh'm	8 50	4 00	50	25	60	40	10	..	no	...	yes	Low price tob'co
Rowan	8 50	4 00	40	30	40	60	10	yes	...	...	yes	Short crops.
Rutherford	8 00	3 50	40	25	50	50	6	yes	no	...	yes	No cause as'gn'd
Sampson	8 25	4 00	40	25	30	70	6½	partly	no	----	yes	Low prices.
Stanly	9 00	4 00	40	25	25	75	6	no	no	...	yes	----------
Stokes	8 00	3 00	45	25	25	75	7	partly	no	----	yes	Short crops.
Surry	10 00	6 00	40	25	25	75	5	partly	ov'r	....	yes	Hard times.
Swain	9 00	4 00	40	25	25	75	5	yes	no	no	....	R. R. work.
Transylv'nia	10 00	5 00	55	25	70	50	7	yes	....	...	sme	----------
Tyrrell	9 50	5 00	50	25	25	75	6	yes	no	----	sme	Scarcity money.
Union	9 00	4 00	50	25	50	50	8	yes	sup	....	yes	Short crops.
Vance	8 50	3 50	40	25	50	50	9	partly	no	----	yes	Low price tob'co
Wake	9 00	4 00	50	30	50	50	9	yes	no	----	yes	Short crops.
Warren	8 00	4 00	40	25	50	50	8	yes	no	----	yes	Low price prod.
Washington	8 00	4 00	40	20	25	75	6	partly	yes	....	yes	----------
Watauga	8 50	4 00	50	25	40	60	7	partly	no	no	no	----------
Wayne	8 50	4 00	40	30	30	70	10	no	no	.	no	----------
Wilkes	7 00	3 50	33	25	50	50	8	yes	no	--	--	----------
Wilson	8 00	4 00	40	25	25	75	8	yes	no	no	yes	Short crops.
Yadkin	7 50	4 00	40	25	50	50	7	yes	no	----	yes	Short crops.
Yancey	----	----		---	....	....	--	----	...	...		----------

5.—CONTINUED.

A'y diff'ce in wag's to white and col'd.	What of crop does tena't receive who furnishes himself.	When land'd fur. land, &c., what p't does tena't receive?	Do tenant buy supplies on time?	What p. c. do they pay over c'sh pr'ces?	What security is required?	Of 10 farm labore's or t'na'ts how ma'y will save p'rt e'r ng	Are they better off than three years ago?	What per ct. can read and write?	Is there public schools conven't?	Average number months kept open each year?	Do child'n of farm labor'rs and tena'ts usually att. school?	Do tena'ts a'd fa'm empl'yees att. relig services regularly?
one	⅓ to ½	⅓ to ½	yes	25	cm	1	no	10	yes	2	.....	.....
no	⅔	½	yes	40	lein	2	no	25	yes	.....	yes	no
no	⅔ to ⅔	⅓ to ½	yes	25	lein	1	no	50	yes	3	yes	yes
no	½ to ⅔	⅓ to ½	yes	25	.....	.....	no	50	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅓ to ½	partly	12	lein	2	yes	60	yes	5	yes	yes
no	½ to ⅔	½	partly	40	.....	.....	.....	...	..	...	.....	.....
some	⅔	½	yes	40	cm	2	no	75	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅓ to ½	½ to ¾	yes	40	lein	1	no	50	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	few	20	lein	1	no	50	yes	2	yes	partly
no	¾	½	yes	40	cm	1	no	50	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔ to ¾	⅓ to ½	yes	40	cm	2	some	60	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔ to ¾	½	yes	50	lein	1	no	20	yes	2	yes	yes
yes	⅔	½	yes	40	cm	2	no	10	yes	3	partly	yes
.....	.....	...	.....	...	..	.....	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....
20p.c	⅔ to ¾	⅓ to ½	yes	50	cm	1	no	50	yes	3	partly	yes
yes	⅔	½ to ¾	yes	25	cm	.....	no	75	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	partly	20	lein	1	some	50	yes	3	yes	yes
no	¾	⅓ to ½	yes	30	cm	1	yes	50	yes	4	no	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	50	lein	1	worse	25	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅓	⅔	yes	25	cm	1	no	20	yes	3	yes	yes
no	¾	½	partly	25	lein	1	no	33⅓	yes	3½	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	40	lein	1	some	15	yes	3½	yes	yes
no	½ to ⅔	⅓ to ⅔	some	30	lein	6	yes	15	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔	⅓	few	70	lein	4	some	60	yes	3	yes	yes
some	¾	⅓ to ½	yes	40	.....	2	no	33⅓	...	.....	yes	yes
no	¾	½	yes	30	cm	1	no	50	yes	4	yes	yes
no	⅔ to ¾	⅓ to ½	yes	30	.....	1	no	50	yes	3	yes	yes
some	⅔	⅓	yes	40	lein	1	no	30	yes	3½	yes	yes
no	½ to ⅔	⅓ to ½	partly	50	cm	1	no	60	yes	2	partly	yes
no	¾	½	yes	33⅓	cm	.....	no	60	yes	2	yes	yes
no	¾	½	yes	25	lein	1	no	50	yes	3	yes	yes
some	⅔	⅛ to ½	yes	30	cm	4	no	33⅓	yes	2	partly	partly
some	⅓ to ½	½ to⅔	yes	35	cm	1	no	33	yes	3	partly	yes
no	⅔	⅓ to ½	partly	30	cm	5	no	50	yes	4	partly	yes
no	½ to ¾	⅛	some	25	cm	....	no	75	yes	3	partly	partly
no	⅔	½	yes	40	cm	.....	worse	66	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	50	cm	1	no	50	yes	4	partly	.....
yes	¾	½	yes	30	cm	1	no	20	yes	4	yes	yes
no	¾	½	yes	40	cm	2	no	40	yes	3	yes	yes
some	¾	½	yes	50	cm	1	no	33	yes	4	yes	yes
yes	½	⅛	yes	25	cm	.....	no	33	yes	2	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	partly	33⅓	lein	1	no	50	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	35	cm	3	no	75	yes	4	yes	yes
some	½ to ⅔	⅛ to ½	few	10	cm	2	no	33	yes	3	yes	yes
no	⅔	½	yes	40	cm	2	no	50	yes	3	partly	.....
no	½ to ⅔	⅛ to ⅛	some	25	cm	2	some	75	yes	3	yes	yes

VIEWS OF TENANTS AND FARM LABORERS.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE BUREAU ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS FROM TENANTS AND FARM LABORERS IN THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES OF THE STATE.

ASHE.

L. H.—The school system needs changing—the schools are too short, held in winter and often filled by incompetent teachers. The poor cannot send in winter for want of proper clothing.

J. D. C.—There are too many loafers in this county for the county's good.

A. B.—The wages of laborers will probably increase this year as there are good prospects of the opening of some mines. The terms of free schools are too short—the poor must depend upon them entirely and they should be made longer and provided with better teachers.

BEAUFORT.

A. R.—There is general depression and hard times and almost broken spirits among the tenant farmers. There are many things that contribute somewhat to this bad state of things but the one great cause is the outrageous per cent. charged for supplies bought on credit; it is sapping the life of North Carolina.

F. M. S.—The poor cannot clothe their children decently enough for a school room because of the exorbitant rate of interest they are charged for supplies; they are obliged to pay whatever the merchants charge. This is a most pressing evil and should be stopped by law or it will soon swallow us body and soul.

BERTIE.

D. B. L.—Labor is in fair demand—the wages are low. Laborers can always get work either on the farm or railroads or saw mills, of which there are several.

J. W. S.—Mostly small farmers in this neighborhood, and those that are energetic are getting on very well; they do not depend entirely on the farm for a living—work at other things.

BLADEN.

P. H. D.—Laborers should receive cash for their work; they can get only the lowest prices for what they have to sell and pay very high for what they have to buy.

A. P.—A great many laborers in this section gone to Georgia to work in turpentine fields. This part of the State is in a bad condition now and wages are low. The poor can't clothe their children for school, so that not over half attend.

BRUNSWICK.

M. W.—Most of the people in this section own their land and they get along very well. There is a custom here of giving orders on merchants in pay

for work and this works hardship to farm laborers because of the high charges of merchants. A great many landlords hire women and boys to work on the farm at cheaper rates than are charged by men.

BUNCOMBE.

J. E. W.—There is a present prospect for improvement in farming in this county. There are five acres of clover this year to one five years ago. Less tobacco and more corn has also been planted.

BURKE.

W. McD.—Plenty of work and prompt pay for all reliable farm laborers in this county. There is no time or mortgage business on crops; what little credit is required is at regular prices with simple interest.

CABARRUS.

T. D. H.—Some think they pay only 25 or 30 per cent. for what they buy on crop liens, but if they will figure it out, they will see it is 100 to 200 per cent. per annum on the amount they buy over cash prices. There would be an over supply of labor if they would work. Negroes with some education will not work on the farm if they can help it. They have a keener desire for education than the whites and attend school much better.

CATAWBA.

F. H.—Tenants are not as industrious sometimes as they should be. The colored if they can get work two or three days in a week, will not work the rest of the week or until the money gives out. The whites are generally industrious, but save nothing.

CASWELL.

E. S.—Money is very scarce in this county. Provisions are also scarce, and consequently times are very hard. I think there will be less tobacco and more provisions raised this year than heretofore.

G. N. T.—There is 85 per cent. of the farm labor in this county colored. Of course firewood, house and garden are given free. Wages are lower this year than usual. Real good tobacco hands get even now as high as $100 to $130 per year, according to ability to manage a tobacco crop. Very few females employed in farm work. They will not hire for regular work on farm for wages, with few exceptions. In chopping and harvest time they work by the day—getting about fifty cents per day. Wages have decreased a little this year, owing to low price of tobacco.

J. W. F.—I know nothing that would so much improve the working people just now as the removal of all whiskey and intoxicants from the land.

R. T.—Wages have decreased this year, caused, I believe, by the tariff and low price of farm products.

CHATHAM.

W. E. G.—I suggest that the Bureau recommend to the Legislature that a law be passed to make laborers who contract for a certain time stick to their contract. It would be to the benefit of the farming class.

B. A. S.—While laborers do not get high wages, they get more than the farmer can afford to pay at the present low price of produce. Good feeling exists between employer and employee here.

D. F. W.—The only thing I have to suggest for the improvement of the farming interest is that there should be raised more manure, and mortgaging for supplies and buying guano should be stopped. This can be done by living close and working hard a year or two. Wages are lower this year on account of short crops.

CHEROKEE.

F. J. A.—From the present outlook labor will be more in demand than now and at better prices. The county is in a prosperous condition and farmers and laborers generally feel encouraged.

J. A. K.—Our lands are largely owned by non-residents and renters cannot rent until about January 1st, consequently cannot make proper preparation for the next year, but for this their condition might be better. Our free schools are not good, teachers poor and not paid promptly; school houses bad and people generally don't take the interest they should: a large per cent. of school children are not able to buy books and writing material.

CHOWAN.

W. A. G.—Most of the landlords furnish supplies to their tenants; some charge a very small per cent., some very high, some none and some you can't tell what they charge—all they can. There has been a slight increase in wages on account of railroad work.

CLEVELAND.

W. J. M.—I think the present depressed condition of the farming interest is largely due to the mortgage system in buying supplies. There is no chance for improvement where this system is in operation.

COLUMBUS.

B. P.—The school money being saved to build school-houses. The children of tenants and farm laborers are not able to attend school or church for want of proper clothing. They are very poor and getting worse.

A. G. S.—There is more produce in this neighborhood than for years past. Decreasing wages on account of over supply.

CUMBERLAND.

J. M. B.—There is no man and no county that can long exist on 50 per cent. charged on everything eaten by farmers; unless a remedy is found the county will be ruined very soon.

O. E.—There ought to be a law passed forbidding any man planting more than ten acres in cotton to the horse.

J. S. M.—The condition of the farmers is bad and will get no better until we adopt some system and unite in our efforts to better ourselves and stop looking to others to help us; we must depend upon ourselves. When we become united we can get all the legislation we need; not till then.

DAVIDSON.

H. F. C.—Farm labor is very low in this county, generally about 40 cents per day; factory labor runs from 75 to $1.00 per day; miners I think get about $1.00 per day.

DARE.

G. W. O.—In this county we have a large body of heavy timbered land uncultivated. Crops badly injured by storm August 21st; cotton, peas and rice cut off over half.

DAVIE.

G. F.—The farmer though the mainwheel to the whole machinery is the poorest and most abused; as a class we need less guano and chattel mortgages.

DURHAM.

F. W. R.—Attendance at school ought to be enforced by law; the schools are now usually taught in winter when the child of the poor man is poorly clad and hence unable to attend; in summer they must work, and so they do not attend school. This should not be so—we must get out of this condition or we shall go backward as a people and State.

FORSYTH.

S. A. H.—Many whites do not send their children to school for want of proper clothes. The people are in a bad condition and most of their lands are mortgaged, in most cases too irredeemably. I see no hope for the county to get better unless the government comes to their help and lends them money at 1 per cent. to redeem their land and gives them twenty years to pay out. Wages have decreased on farms owing I believe to the tariff.

FRANKLIN.

B. I. H.—The colored people get a decided advantage in the free school privileges, and in a few years they will be so little inclined to work as not to be counted on for farm work at all. That is one of the evils of our new civilization. The growing power of whiskey is another.

N. Y. G.—The usual way of renting land here is for a stipulated amount, say 1000 pounds of lint cotton for a 1-horse crop.

GASTON.

J. L. H.—Merchants require a mortgage on whatever property tenant has, besides the crop. They are more strict this year than ever before. There were many that could not pay out last year. Tenants pay an advance of at least 25 per cent. on the average.

J. H. R.—The system of buying on time and using guano has broken up many farmers, and has driven so many to the towns to seek employment that wages have been greatly reduced. If this state of things continues it will soon put all the land in the hands of a few men and ruin all classes.

GATES.

J. M. P.—The tenant system as operated here in this county is detrimental to both parties.

GRANVILLE.

W. H. B.—The working people of Granville county are in a worse condition than they have been since the war. Yellow tobacco is our dependence entirely and as it failed last year on account of the weather many crops did not pay for the fertilizers, consequently labor is not in much demand and besides there is no money to pay for it at the present low prices.

N. H. D.—This is a very hard year on poor farmers and laborers.

GREENE.

J. T.—There is plenty of work for all good hands except about one month in the year, after crops are laid by. Tenants rarely save anything, hence they take up their wages as fast as due them and often before.

GUILFORD.

J. A. P. W.—With schools taught only three months in each year and thirteen or fourteen hours work per day there is a poor chance for improvement. Paying one-third of the product for the bare land there is no chance for anything better than an existence for the renter.

T. L. M.—The price paid for labor is far too low, but there is no chance for improvement until farm produce sells higher; the farmer cannot afford to pay more at present. Farm labor is more nearly paid in proportion to the profit to the employer than any other class of labor.

P. H. H.—No females hire for regular work on farm; they work largely in factories. There is a general complaint of hard times. Crops last year were very poor. Peaches this year all killed, but wheat and oats looking well, as all other crops.

HALIFAX.

W. T. P.—Low prices of of cotton here made wages low, and some farm hands have sought work on public works and some have emigrated. All farmers and tenants will be better off another year, as crops in this section are good, and will continue to be if no disaster occurs; and the chances are that farmers and tenants will be better off than for four years past.

HARNETT.

J. E. D.—Labor is down; so is the farmer. The merchant is the prosperous man now. Half of the farms are mortgaged to the commission merchants, who charge 50 per cent. above cash prices. Half of the farmers of this county are bound to merchants by the mortgage system.

J. B.—If the homestead law was killed that would kill the mortgage system, and that would help the laboring man. He has to pay a big time price and cost of recording when he mortgages.

HENDERSON.

T. J. S.—Children do not attend school with much regularity, especially the whites for want of sufficient interest. Tenant farmers and laborers are in a poor condition, but hoping for improvement this year.

B. F. M.—We are sometimes forced to pay one and half to two bushels of corn in fall for one borrowed in summer—much of that kind of business done; this and the chattel mortgage or lien bond system has done us much harm. Keeping up fences is a heavy expense on tenants also. White hands when good receive $1.50 to $2.00 per month more than colored.

A. G. M.—If whiskey and tobacco were entirely prohibited and compulsory education adopted the county would get along much better. The people are very indifferent about schools. What they have is not used to advantage.

HERTFORD.

W. M. R.—I think our neighborhood is in better condition than for five years; all laborers get steady employment if they want it; they generally work well, though there are some few loafers that walk about three-fourths of their time looking for something to do. As for education, we have very good schools for white and colored. I think the colored are improving faster than the whites: they take more interest in giving their children education than we do, and generally send them all the session, which is not the case with the whites.

HYDE.

G. H. W.—The tenants and laborers are interested in education and are trying to send their children to school; the landlords are not caring much about it; they want work done and have no interest in anything further. They have not much use for preachers or teachers.

E. A. F.—The working classes are very poor, caused by buying supplies on time prices; they are very cautious this year, however, and hope to better their condition. There is very little interest in education, but the morals of tenants are good.

IREDELL.

C. L.—We are obliged to buy on time and pay 50 or more per cent., hence are compelled to make money crop mostly to pay with; oftentimes than otherwise fail to pay out. We buy from merchants; landlords for the most part are not able to furnish us.

T. M. M.—The land is poor in many places and must be fertilized, but my observation is that we cannot depend on commercial fertilizers for profitable farming—home-made pays best; indeed, I think the State would have been better off if a ton of commercial fertilizer had never been brought into it.

JOHNSTON.

W. R. L.—We often rent land for so much cotton, the amount ranging from 1,000 to 1,200 pounds lint cotton for one-horse farm; we furnish our stock, &c.

L. D. R.—Farmers cultivate too much land and manure with commercial fertilizers; work hard in summer and do nothing half the winter and raise very

little home manure; they are too careless in this respect and the land gets worse instead of better, and a man usually goes with his land—if that is improved he improves, and if it goes down he goes down. Tobacco in this section is a failure. The grain prospect is the best we have had for years. Hard times is the general cry of the people.

L. J.—Times are hard, but the people are working hard and using more than ordinary economy. We have concluded to raise more home manure and buy less commercial fertilizers.

W. G. L.—Hard times is the cry. Tenants are far behind, caused by short crops for three years. If we could get cash for our work and produce and pay cash for what we buy we would soon be out of debt and doing well. As it is nearly every one is in debt and getting worse every year.

B. S. M.—The two past years have been hard on tenants and landlords in this section. The people are generally industrious and are showing more than ordinary energy and attention to their farms. The prospect for this year is very fine for an abundant crop and there is some hope therefore for the farmer to get his head up again.

JONES.

B. M.—Women don't work on farm much except in chopping and harvesting. There is not a great deal of hired labor worked on farms. Most of the whites and blacks do their own work. White hands receive more wages on farms than colored.

J. S. B.—Colored hands receive better pay than white ones. We want about five months' school term in this county.

J. L. B.—The farm laborers are regularly employed by the month about one-half of their time; the rest of the time they work by the day or job. Women get work regularly from March 1st to July 1st chopping; after that they get no more until cotton is ready to pick, except perhaps a little pulling fodder. In making advancements merchants take a mortgage on everything, the landlord for back indebtedness. Their general per cent. is about twenty, but taking it per annum from the time sales are made, it often amounts to over one hundred per cent. I don't know of a single laborer or tenant but could better his condition if he would practice economy. We are a wasteful people, spending one-fourth to three-fourths more than necessary. The landlord is a rapacious fellow, and has the tenant too much at his mercy. If the Landlord and Tenant act was repealed, giving the merchant an equal showing with the landlord, I think it would bring trade more in competition, and run the enormous interest exacted down to a living rate. Let creditors take mortgages and then the dockets would show every one how far to go.

LENOIR.

C. E. D.—The land is sometimes rented to tenants for one-third the crop, the landlord to furnish team, tools, etc., and two hundred pounds meat and ten bushels meal to the one-horse crop. There are ample school privileges for the colored, but the whites only get about two months every three years, caused by the unjust division of the school money. The colored laborer in this section is

not very reliable. The colored ones are above labor when they get a little education. They seek some higher sphere, and often they land in prison—but they don't mind that much.

LINCOLN.

T. H. W.—Tenants are somewhat oppressed in some parts of our county. They are not provided with comfortable houses, as they should be, to protect life and health. The crops for the past two years have been a failure, and tenants are a year behind. The enormous high per cent. they have to pay for everything is about to crush the life out of them. They cannot clothe their children properly to go to school in the open log cabins where the schools are taught.

MACON.

E. M. T.—No colored labor here. Whites mostly employed in the mica mines.

P. P. McL.—There are some worthy gentlemen who are tenants, but as a rule they are a low class of white and colored who buy anything they can get on a credit. They are not diligent workers. There is not much hope of immediate improvement of this class of labor in this section.

J. R.—Society of laboring people good; temperance prevails, and there is a reasonable degree of interest in education. We are not, however, as industrious as we should be. The climate is splendid, water unsurpassed and soil productive.

MADISON.

J. C. C.—There are but few tenants or hired hands in this county. Most farmers own their farms and do their own work. There are scarcely any colored people here.

MARTIN.

S. B.—Tenants and farm laborers have a very bad chance. Wages are very low and paid in trade at high prices. We can't trade where we choose. We can't send our children to school for the reason that, advantage being taken of us, we have nothing with which to clothe our children.

MITCHELL.

I. S.—Want of schools, low wages and short crops have run the farm laborers down to a low condition; they can't attend school if they had them or church for want of proper clothing.

W. S.—In the mica and iron mines in this county good hands get from 80 cents to $1.00 per day, but they are not working full time now.

MONTGOMERY.

B. G. M.—Our county is poor in several ways; many ignorant, wanting in industry and energy, in debt, also far from railroad market; Greensboro is the nearest good market which is fifty-two miles. We are rich in natural resources, water power, gold mines, timber, &c.

J. F. U.—I am satisfied that we use too much guano and cultivate too much land, but what are we to do when the landlord and merchant that furnishes sup-

plies insist on our planting so many acres in cotton and so much tobacco; we ought to plant less of these and more of grain and grasses, but how are we to do it; the man who furnishes us rations at 50 per cent. interest won't let us; he wants money crop planted.

B. J. R.—The hired hand and tenant has a hard time; between high rent, low wages, short time of regular work and time prices, the landlord gets all and they have nothing to buy clothing for school or churches.

T. J. C.—Farm tenants do not attend school or church as they should for want of proper clothing.

R. S. M.—The use of guano and buying supplies on time at most outrageous prices have about broken the farmers up; we must stop this or starve in the effort—work more in winter and plant less cotton.

I. W. S.—We have to pay $1.25 per bushel for corn on time and in the fall sell ours at 75 cents to pay the debt—on all other supplies we pay accordingly. How can we be in any other than a desperately poor condition; if we could borrow money or get supplies at 8 per cent. we could prosper. I do not think the country needs free trade so much as honest trade.

D. A. L.—This county is in a bad fix and it is attributable for the most part to the extortion practised by the merchants who sell on time; there is no mistake about this; it is this system that has heaped three-fourths of our ills upon us and well nigh broke our spirits.

MOORE.

A. M. D. W.—Crop mortgaging has done our farmers and tenants more harm than everything else combined, short crops included; we have also made too free use of guano at high prices. Most all kinds of labor are better paid than farm labor. The negro is as well paid as the white man according to his skill.

J. J. R.—I think the mortgage system ought to be worked down—it causes men to buy things they could do without. It would be better for the farmers to cultivate one-half the land they do now and improve their lands. I think the State is better off in education and manufactories than ever before.

NASH.

I. B.—It is hard to live by one's labor now. Three years ago we prospered, but now it is hard work to live; high per cent. on purchases is the main cause I think; we are charged all of 100 per cent. per annum on what we eat and wear.

A. Y. H.—Tenants and farm laborers cannot send their children to school for want of proper clothing.

NORTHAMPTON.

E. S.—The usual rent for a one-horse crop is 1,000 pounds of lint cotton. White hands get one-fourth more than colored and are paid in cash; the negro must take trade for his wages at high prices.

B. P.—The farmers are better off as a class than three years ago, but those who work on shares are not better off; they are generally furnished supplies by the landlord at such prices as they choose to charge, and at harvest the landlord gets all the crop; the tenant gets nothing but what he eats.

ONSLOW.

A. A.—One of the greatest curses to the tenant is the chattel mortgage system. Through it comes the present financial pressure of this county. A mortgage is taken on everything a poor man has, whether he gives his assent or not. He signs, thinking all will be right, but when settling time comes, he finds his mistake. Big per cent. has eaten up crop, cattle and mule, and threatens his household plunder, and often menaces his liberty, because he has mortgaged property that cannot be found. He may say that he did not know such and such article was in the mortgage; it makes no difference. The law should be repealed or amended so that a disinterested man should be a witness to every such paper, who could swear that the same was read in full to the party making it, and that he assented to it.

ORANGE.

W. C.—This is a good locality for men with capital. Labor is very good. What is needed most is regular work.

W. W.—Orange county is mortgaged to death. The farmers have raised cotton and tobacco and bought guano and supplies on time until the merchants have a mortgage on seven-tenths of the farms.

PAMLICO.

W. C.—In many instances the work of tenants is so poorly done that the landlord does not get justice, and therefore a great many good tenants suffer for the bad.

PENDER.

J. G.—I suggest the necessity of a law requiring landlords and tenants to subscribe to contracts between them before a Justice of the Peace, that there be no advantage taken by one over the other. As it is now, each one seeks to get all he can and do as little as he can, and hence tenants are constantly changing.

PERSON.

J. B.—I don't know what per cent. we pay over cash prices; we have to pay whatever the merchant or landlord charges, and it is generally very heavy—25 to 50 per cent. Times are hard; many hirelings cannot get any work this year.

R. R. M.—While prices for labor are very low, I think the farmers are paying us all they can afford now. Tobacco is very low. There is usually a scarcity of hands, but this year there is an over-supply.

D. W. B.—Farmers do not send their children to school as they should; we should have compulsory education. There is much depression among all classes. Money matters very close, but crop prospects good.

T. B. B.—It is a hard tustle with the hard times now, but I hope it will be of much benefit in driving the farmers to make their own supplies, and to depend less on guano and time prices.

T. P. F.—I think if a settlement were forced all around it would be found that the country is about "busted" and gone up. The negroes are a nuisance, and we would be better off if we could get rid of them.

PITT.

R. R. W.—The special character of the negro is his fixed habit of attending church and sending his children to school, and it would seem that his morals would improve, but they don't. They are improving educationally very fast—much faster than the whites.

E. G. L.—The colored laborer is good for attending church, but it does them no good. The tenant system is in vogue here, and is working to the detriment of the landlord as well as the tenant.

POLK.

W. R. J.—As a general thing the time prices are ruining the poor in our section and if it is not remedied in some way the poor will get poorer and the rich richer.

RANDOLPH.

W. D. C.—Nearly every farmer in my neighborhood makes enough supplies to do them and the system of buying on crop mortgages is hardly known here. All classes are in a very fair condition and are working with energy and in good spirits.

W. H. F.—I regret to say that the colored people of the laboring class are making more progress than the whites; they are much more interested in their mental and material improvement than the whites, and yet there are not many colored in this section.

Y. M. C. J.—We have very little of the crop lien time business here; the merchants generally sell the tenants more or less sugar, coffee, etc., as they need it and when their money gives out they credit them until harvest and they seldom suffer loss.

W. J.—The moral and educational condition of our community has improved very much in the last ten years with both races and the schools are very well attended. Few chattel mortgages are given except for guano. Farm tenants and laborers are in the main able to supply themselves and if not all they can buy the little they need on time at very little per cent. over cash prices.

J. W. K.—The majority of the people in this section favor working the roads by taxation and the dog law.

ROBESON.

C. M.—As a general thing I think it would be better for the farmers and the laborers if the farmers would in making their contracts employ labor the whole year, as the time could be employed to advantage in improving farm generally and in making manure during the winter months.

ROWAN.

A. T.—The times are hard, caused by short crops the past two years and the neglect of the farms for the past ten years. There is very little effort to get up home manure and improve the farm; the dependence is on guano and little work.

RUTHERFORD.

L. P.—The trouble in this county is the awful time prices that we have to pay the merchants, not less than 50 per cent. The price of labor is low and it should be higher, but the farmer can't afford to pay even present prices, because the high per cent. keeps him down. The homestead law should be repealed and then the lien law and the high time prices would have to go.

P. H. H.—The poor tenant and farm laborers and in many cases land-owners, are in a bad condition, mostly on account of the heavy per cent. charged by merchants for supplies.

SAMPSON.

E. J.—Everybody is pushing for all they are worth on the farms now and hoping for a good crop year. More guano sold in this part of the county than in years before.

J. H. B.—There is the hardest times ever seen here; the farmers have been speculated upon until they are pretty nearly gone up. Let something be done to protect the farmers and laborers from the ruinous prices charged them for guano and supplies.

STANLY.

B. C. M.—I have always been poor and shall in all probability remain so, but with reasonable health and soberness expect to continue to maintain my family as I have in the past in a good condition. I have ten in family and five at farm work and one at school.

STOKES.

P. J. G.—In addition to the low prices of produce as a reason for a decline in wages, there seems to be a general desire on the part of employers to reduce wages, which I consider very wrong and against the best interests of the whole community; for where labor is poorly paid there is want of general prosperity.

SURRY.

S. S.—We farmers work very hard, but get in no better condition. Evidently there is something wrong. The towns flourish, while in the country, where the producing element is, the people get worse off. We do not mind the work—were raised to it—but would like to get something for it.

SWAIN.

W. H. B.—The mortgage system is working its deadly way into this county, and making sad havoc where its tempting offers are once entered into. Alas! one never gets out from its magic embrace until he dies out or is sold out. I wish this ruinous law could be repealed, and with it the homestead law, which is the father of the mortgage system.

TRANSYLVANIA.

G. F. J.—We have some loafers in this county who don't care to work much after the crops are made. The body of the people are industrious and well-to-do.

VANCE.

J. H. P.—Tobacco is relied on in this county and guano is bought at time prices. There are very few white laborers, and colored unreliable. Women can't be induced to work out much. The farmer of means usually does well, but the poor one is kept down by guano and supplies at high per cent. Laborers who work for wages, and get say $10 per month, are better off than the tenant or poor farmer. The colored take more interest in education than the whites.

WAKE.

J. A. S.—It would be an improvement to the county to have more good roads and less commercial fertilizers.

M. C. M.—Tenants grow financially worse every year; buying stock and supplies on time at exhorbitant rates of per cent., using commercial fertilizers at high prices; many have become discouraged and gone to the towns, railroads, turpentine districts, &c. Many good farms are unrented this year. The land-owners who depend solely on farming are but little better off, so as a whole my opinion is that the county is getting in a very bad condition. The land is nearly all mortgaged to a few merchants and capitalists. We need cheaper money, fewer crop mortgages and more economy and industry.

WARREN.

E. L. M.—It is generally thought that it would be a benefit to all classes to have the public roads worked by taxation instead of the present imperfect system.

R. H. W.—Laborers don't see any cash often; store orders are given us mostly which are worth one-half to three-fourths what cash would be. The stock law also hurts us.

WASHINGTON.

J. A.—Some of the landlords in my neighborhood require the tenant to house all the crop and clean out all their ditches, and if there is a failure in any part the landlord takes enough of the crop to pay for the failure.

WATAUGA.

P. S.—I think one trouble with farmers is they waste too much time and money on agents; they should do their own thinking and let the agent pass on.

F. F.—There is much depression among farmers and farm laborers here. The cause and the remedy I will not venture to suggest. Hard work has got to be considered whatever other remedy is suggested—that is first.

WAYNE.

R. J.—We buy too much fertilizers and supplies. We have got to change that, and as we are making some headway in that direction this year, we hope for improvement.

WILKES.

H. J.—This is a rough county and the farms are small. There is no conflict between the tenant and the landlord. Hands usually receive as much wages as

the farmer can afford to pay, though there is but little cash paid; but there is no complaint on this account, as small per cent. is charged on time.

S. A. B.—This section of the country is improving, both in agriculture and in morals, very fast. There is very little drinking, and the people are industrious and hopeful.

J. F. P.—Wages are very low, owing to the scarcity of money and the number of hands seeking employment. There is need of something that will furnish employment for all.

WILSON.

J. A. M.—The laborers and tenants of this county are oppressed by high per cent. charged on supplies. We cannot stand it; we shall be crushed by it if something is not done to stop it. We have to pay high rent. One-fourth is a very high rate of interest on the land.

YADKIN.

J. M. H.—While there is no difference in wages paid white and colored hands, white hands are preferred. In harvest and in ditching $1 per day is paid. The industrious can get work at all times. Tenants are abundant and land rents high. This year is exceptional for scarcity of money and supplies. Farm hands are saving nothing from year to year, and therefore they are poorly prepared for the hard times now upon us. They are at the mercy of time prices.

R. W.—The crops for three years have been a failure, and the farmers have had to buy much of their supplies on time at ruinous prices; and they are, therefore, much behind at present. There is a smaller amount of provisions in the county than I have ever known, and those who sell provisions on time have but little if any conscience.

CHAPTER V.

COTTON MANUFACTORIES.

A distinct chapter is given to this industry because of its importance among the manufacturing enterprises in the State. The development of cotton manufacturing in North Carolina has been very rapid in recent years. When the advantages which the State offers for the manufacture of cotton is considered the rapid development of this industry is not wonderful. Here are to be found the very best raw material, unlimited water power and fuel and an abundance of reliable labor, advantages not surpassed anywhere in the country. What has been accomplished may be assumed to be only an earnest of what is to be accomplished. Several large mills are now in course of erection in the State. No one branch of industry is developing faster in North Carolina than the manufacture of cotton; the South is the natural home of cotton manufacturing and the capital invested in it is gradually drifting to the Southern States. It is said that there is very little money being invested in this way in the North at present; under the new adjustment North Carolina seems to be getting her share of the capital invested.

In 1870 the census reported thirty-three establishments in North Carolina with a capital of $1,030,900 operating 39,897 spindles. In 1880 the number of establishments was forty-nine, with a capital of $2,855,800 and 92,385 spindles. From information which we have been able to obtain it appears that there are about eighty mills now in operation in North Carolina. Of these thirty-one have reported to the Bureau. Some of those reporting filled out the blanks sent them only partially—more than half did not report at all. We have learned that some did not report because they did not understand the purposes for which the information sought was to be used, and others doubtless did not because they did not sympathize with the objects of the Bureau as they understood them. When the work of the Bureau is seen and understood perhaps the objections to report-

ing will be largely overcome, because no reasonable person can object to giving information which will lead to a correct and fair statement of the condition of the laboring men, women and children in the cotton factories or other industries of the State. It will be the aim of the Bureau to publish such a statement in the pages of this report.

Among the thirty-one mills reporting are to be found the largest and most successful ones in North Carolina; twenty-two of these report the capital invested in them to be $2,008,911 and 72,534 spindles operated. From the best information we could gather the amount of capital invested in cotton manufacturing in North Carolina is over $4,000,000, and the spindles operated over 200,000, and they consume more than 30,000,000 pounds of cotton.

The interest of the proprietors of some of the cotton factories in the State in their employees in providing mental and religious instruction for them should receive special mention. Some report day schools by the mills at their expense for the children of operatives, and others report churches built by them also. No doubt the money expended will be found to have been wisely spent; no part of the capital stock will bring better returns. Experience has taught that an investment in the affections of those employed is always as good as any money which is put in machinery, because it brings handsome dividends in many ways. Some of the proprietors of the cotton mills of the State have learned this truth.

There are some remarks made at the end of this chapter which should receive the careful consideration of employers' and to which their attention is respectfully called. Especially is their notice directed to the remarks in reference to hours of labor and the "truck system" which we have noticed in the preceding pages.

TABLE No. 6.

TABULATED STATEMENT OF RETURNS OF PROPRIETORS OF COTTON MILLS, SHOWING AVERAGE RATE OF WAGES PAID, AND THE EDUCATIONAL, MORAL AND FINANCIAL CONDITION OF OPERATIVES IN NORTH CAROLINA.

TABLE No. 6.—SHOWING AVERAGE HOURS WORKED PER DAY, RATE OF WAGES AND COUNTIES, FROM RETURNS RECEIVED

COUNTIES.	Hours constitut'g day's work.	Lapper room, men per day.	Boys per day.	Card room, men per day.	Boys per day.	Drawing, men.	Boys.	Women.	Slubbers and speeders, men.	Women.	Spinning department, foremen.	Assistant foremen.	Women spinners.	Girl spinners.	Doffers, girls.	Boys.	Spoolers, women.	Girls.	Warpers, women.	Quilting department, foremen.	Women.	Girls.	Boys.	Weaving department, foremen.
Alamance	11½	75	65	75	65	..	50	50	70	55	1 25	85	50	45	35	45	52½	30	55	82½	55	45	35	2 66
Alexander	12	50	..	50	..	..	..	35	..	35	1 50	..	30	..	30	..	30	..	30	..	..	..	..	..
Cabarrus	12	65	..	65	..	50	..	40	60	60	2 00	1 25	*10	*10	40	40	40	40	75	2 00	50	45	40	1 75
Cleveland	12	60	..	75	..	40	..	..	..	40	1 50	1 00	40	..	40	40	40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Catawba	12½	75	..	75	..	50	..	50	65	65	1 25	75	50	40	40	40	50	..	1 00	..	..	..	..	..
Durham	11½	100	25	80	50	..	50	50	65	65	1 75	1 00	..	40	30	30	50	50	60	..	..	..	..	2 25
Gaston	12½	75	38	75	40	50	..	50	60	60	1 40	73	46	32	28	28	52½	40	95	1 00	45	55	55	2 00
Guilford	11½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75	..	..	50	1 75
Halifax	10	75	..	75	..	50	..	..	..	..	1 00	..	50	30	25	25	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Iredell	12	60	..	60	..	..	..	..	60	50	1 50	..	*10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lincoln	12	75	..	72½	50	..	..	60	..	50	1 20	..	47½	40	40	40	42½	40	1 00	..	..	..	..	..
Mecklenb'g	11	80	..	75	..	..	..	60	..	65	1 50	..	71	45	..	40	55	..	1 00	..	..	..	..	..
Pasquota'k	10	..	50	..	50	..	..	50	..	50	..	..	50	..	..	..	50	40	..	..	..	..	..	..
Randolph	11½	87½	40	82½	57½	..	..	40	..	45	1 37	50	45	45	45	40	45	40	40	..	45	40	..	1 50
Rock'ngh'm	11¾	85	..	1 25	40	..	..	..	..	50	2 25	75	40	37½	30	30	40	37½	45	..	..	..	..	1 00
Richmond	11½	70	50	75	35	..	..	50	..	50	2 00	1 00	..	40	..	30	50	40	1 00	..	60	50	..	2 25
Surry	11	55	..	75	..	..	..	40	..	40	..	..	40	35	30	30	..	..	..	..	40	30	..	..

*In these counties where the asterisks occur, spinners are paid by the piece at ten cents per side.

GENERAL CONDITION OF EMPLOYEES IN COTTON MILLS IN NORTH CAROLINA, BY FROM EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

Assistant foremen.	Weavers, per cut.	Yards in cut.	Beamers, men.	Twisters, men.	Women.	Folders, men.	Balers, men.	Dyers.	Fireman.	Machinists.	Watchmen.	Carpenters.	Laborers.	Are wages paid by day, week or month?	What per cent. of mills own stores?	What per cent of mills use trade checks?	What per cent. of employees save part their earnings?	Are their educational and religious opportunities good?
1 25	24	47	90	95	65	80	75	2 37	90	2 25	75	1 50	60	w'k	100	33⅓	few	Yes, very.
	20					40								w'k	100	100		Very good.
1 00	25	54	1 00	75	75	75	65	1 25	1 00	1 25	70	1 25	65	sm	100	50	10	Very good.
					40									d'ly	100	100	10	Fair.
							1 00		1 00		1 00			w'k			10	Good.
1 37	40	53	1 25	60	60	1 25		1 50	1 00		85	1 50	75	mo	100	100		Very good.
1 00	27½	49	1 50	75	75	1 00	80		75	1 40	90	1 12	75	w'k	100	100	5	No.
1 00	25	53		40		1 00	75	1 75	1 00	1 75	1 00			sm			25	Very good.
														mo			smll	Fair.
														mo	100	100	50	Fair.
				40	50				1 00	1 50		1 50	75	mo	100	50	5	No.
				50	55		90		1 00	2 50	1 00		75	w'k			20	Excellent.
				40	50				1 00				1 00	mo			5	No.
75			40		40		75	75	75	1 50	75	1 38	75	mo	50	50	25	Very good.
			1 00	1 00	40		1 00	1 00	80	2 25	1 00	2 00		w'k	100		25	Excellent.
1 50	25	46	1 50	50	60	80	1 00	1 00	80	2 66	80	1 40	80	mo	100		33⅓	Very good.
					40									mo			25	No.

TABLE No. 7.—COTTON MILLS, showing class of Goods Manufactured, No. Spindles same Hours of Work, No. of Men, Women and Children Employed, &c., by Returns from

COUNTIES.	Class of Goods Manufactured.	Number Spindles.	Number Looms.	Power.	No. days in operation for year ending Sept. 1st, 1887.	Total amount of Capital employed.	Pounds Cotton consumed for the year.	Value Product for the year.
Alamance.								
	Plaids	3,200	160	water	298	$155,000	500,000	$105,000 00
	Plaid Domestics	8,474	434	w&st			1,208,025	
	Plaids	2,240	141	water	292		344,380	107,000 00
	Plaids and Yarns	928	94	steam	305		156,650	
Alexander								
	Sheetings and Yarns	672	24	water	270	160,000	80,000	
Cabarrus.								
	Plaids	1,728	101	water	290	60,000	260,000	52,200 00
	Plaids					183,911		
	Bags							
	Towels							
Cleveland.								
	Carpet Warps and Twine	884		water	300	30,000	264,000	
	Cotton Warps					20,000		20,000 00
Catawba.								
	Plaids and Yarns					37,000		21,000 00
	Skein Yarns and Warps	3,000		steam	310	50,000	525,545	83,697 00
Durham.								
	Br'wn Sheet'g&Ch'mb'rys				303	150,000	450,036	116,269 66
Gaston.								
	Single and double Yarns	4,000	300			75,000	517,000	
	Plaids and Warps	12,505	325		310		1,872,000	
	Warps	2,000		water	310	75,000	360,000	
	Plaids and Warps							
Guilford.								
	Plaids		100	steam	175	30,000		55,000 00
Halifax.								
	Single and double Yarns	1,000		water				
Iredell.								
	Single and double Yarns	1,600		water	270			
Lincoln.								
	Warps, Skein and Yarn	2,800			295	50,000	315,000	
	Warps and Yarns	2,700		steam	290		275,000	
Meckl'b'r'g								
	Single and double Yarns	6,864		steam	306	150,000	843,843	128,827 00
Pasquot'nk								
	Seine Twine and Netting	900	1	steam	300	23,000	100,000	18,000 00
Randolph.								
	Yarns and Warps	1,920		water	300	48,000	440,000	
	Seamless Bags and Warp	2,224	20	w&st	289	60,000	400,000	
	Plaids (new)				90	25,000		3m15,000 00

AND LOOMS, CAPITAL EMPLOYED, COTTON CONSUMED, PRODUCT TURNED OUT, VALUE OF IN THIRTY-ONE MILLS MAKING REPORT TO THIS BUREAU, TABULATED MANUFACTURERS.

Pounds Yarn produced.	Yards Domestics.	Average No. men employed.	Women.	Children and youths.	Children under 14 years.	Hours constitut'g day's work.	How often are wages paid in full.	Are trade checks used?	Does the mill own a store?	Are employees required to trade there?	Do employees live in houses owned by mill?	Are they required to pay rent?	Have they good educational and religious facilities?	Do they avail themselves of these opportunities?	What per ct. adult employees read and write?	What per cent. children employees read and write?	What per cent. save part of their earnings?	How many families live in their own houses?
.....	1,785,000	42	55	48	5	11	w'k	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	75	50	20	5
1,022,286	3,494,218	118	135	96	..	11	wk	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	ptly	....	....	....	11
1,647,565	.....	45	24	32	8	11½	s-m	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	55	96	....	.....
.....	.....	..	...	..	..	12	irrg	....	yes	no	yes	yes	no	..	....	..	....	.....
.....	.....	5	20	..	..	...	wk	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	....	...	...	.....
870,000	.....	20	30	20	15	12	s-m	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	ptly	50	33	10	4
.....	3,387,644	77	137	84	..	...	...	....	....	....	...	..	.	..	....	....	....	.....
.....	142,277	...	...	.	.	11½	mo	yes	yes	no	yes	....	yes	yes	....	....	....	27
.....	133,740	...	...	..	..	...	....	....	....	..	....	....	...	...	...	...	....	.....
.....	.....	10	15	..	4	12	d'ly	yes	yes	no	yes	no	fair	no	75	...	few	.....
.....	.....	5	18	6	..	11	d'ly	yes	yes	no	....	....	yes	yes	80	50	few	.....
.....	.....	9	27	18	2	11½	mo	...	....	....	...	...	.	.	....	....	33	6
440,458	.....	24	41	15	5	12½	wk	no	no	....	yes	no	yes	yes	75	75	10	1
.....	2,336,576	60	75	50	50	11½	wk	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	go'd	....	...	....	few	.....
.....	.....	..	...	.		12	d'ly	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	go'd	ptly	....	....	....	.....
.....	.....	150	350	..	..	12½	wk	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	fair	ptly	50	33	....	.....
.....	.....	20	30	20	..	11½	wk	yes	yes	no	yes	no	fair	no	few	few	few	.....
.....	.....	30	20	40	40	12½	wk	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	ptly	33	...	....	.....
.....	870,000	17	30	5	2	11½	s-m	no	no	....	yes	yes	go'd	yes	....	....	25	.....
.....	....	4	10	10	..	10	mo	no	no	....	yes	no	no	...	50	50	....	.....
.....	.....	3	8	3	3	12½	mo	yes	yes	no	yes	no	fair	no	75	....	50	.....
275,000	.....	8	20	11		12	mo	yes	yes	no	yes	no	fair	ptly	75	....	5	.....
255,000	.....	12	15	12	11	12	mo	yes	yes	yes	yes	....	fair	half	50	25	6	2
703,078	.....	19	39	24	12	11	wk	cash	no	....	yes	no	yes	yes	50	33	20	.....
87,000	.....	3	4	17	1	10	mo	no	no	...	no	no	fair	yes	100	100	5	4
.....	.....	.	...	..	..	11½	mo	no	no	....	yes	yes	yes	ptly	90	90	75	3
.....	b 300,000	11	20	34	10	11½	irrg	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	ptly	75	....	10	half
.....	250,000	9	18	23	14	12	wk	yes	no	no	....	....	go'd	yes	100	100	100	4

TABLE No.

COUNTIES.	Class of Goods manufactured.	Number Spindles.	Number Looms.	Power.	No. days in operation for year ending Sept. 1st, 1887.	Total amount of Capital employed.	Pounds Cotton consumed for the year.	Value Product for the year.
Richmond.								
	Chain W'rps & Carp't Y'ns				310	40,000	421,200	59,200 00
	Chain Warps	1,000		steam			162,382	
	Plaids and Warps	4,032	164	water	309	102,000	705,000	150,000 00
Rocki'ghm								
	Cotton and Woolen	4,294	61	water	285	235,000	590,000	
Surry.								
	Yarns and Warps	1,000		water	250	25,000	180,000	24,300 00

7.—CONTINUED.

Pounds Yarn produced.	Yards Domestics.	Average No. men employed.	Women.	Children and youths.	Children under 14 years.	Hours constitut'g day's work.	How often are wages paid in full?	Are trade checks used?	Does the mill own a store?	Are employees required to trade there?	Do employees live in houses owned by mill?	Are they required to pay rent?	Have they good educational and religious facilities?	Do they avail themselves of these opportunities?	What per ct. adult employees read and write?	What per cent. children employees read and write?	What per cent. save part of their earnings?	How many families live in their own houses?
370,000	.....	8	11	15	..	11	d'ly	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	go'd	....	....	....	....	.....
148,104	.....	3	5	5	2	11¼	mo	no	yes	no	yes	yes	fair	no	100	50	....	one
25,000	2,400,000	48	51	42	27	11	mo	no	yes	no	yes	yes	go'd	yes	....	50	50	half
.....	.....	30	109	6	10	11¾	mo	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	go'd	yes	90	....	25	13
162,000	.....	4	12	6	..	11	mo	no	no	....	yes	no	yes	half	100	66	25	half

VIEWS OF COTTON MILL EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE BUREAU ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS FROM COTTON MILL EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES OF THE STATE.

ALAMANCE.

PROPRIETOR.—The employees of this factory have excellent school and church privileges; free schools taught in the village, also frequently subscription schools: a church at factory owned by the proprietor, free to the use of all denominations; Sabbath schools and weekly prayer meetings kept up regularly. These advantages I regret to say are not appreciated as they should be.

EMPLOYER.—There are 109 employees at this mill, they are generally contented and are getting along well; they live in comfortable houses belonging to the mill for which they are charged no rent. We use no trade checks, but pay twice a month in cash. There are two churches here and Sunday schools are kept up in each, Baptist and Methodist—they are well attended. A day school is kept up from October to May each year but the average attendance is small, about thirty.

EMPLOYER.—We employ one hundred and fifteen hands. Pay cash each week. Days work 11 hours. Prefer to work no children under twelve years. Church house at mill free to all denominations; also other churches near by. No school near enough for regular attendance in winter. Employees live in houses belonging to the mill-owners—rent free. There is no complaint or dissatisfaction that we know of. We have paid $18,076.19 for labor this year.

MANUFACTURER.—There are forty-two men, fifty-five women, forty-eight youths and children at work in this mill. Eleven hours constitute a day's work. Wages paid monthly in cash—no trade checks used. As outside circumstances tend in a great measure to regulate prices, I will here enumerate a few advantages our help has for cheap living. People who work in cities where rent is high, fuel high, and most articles of food high would naturally expect higher wages than people who live where these things are cheaper. In the first place, we rent our houses from $1.50 to $2.50 per month and wood is $1.25 to $1.50 per cord according to length. Each house has a good size garden ample for any family to raise most of their vegetables, etc. The best beef can be bought from five to seven cents per pound, flour from $4.50 to $6.00 per barrel and other things in proportion. We have for the most part a very orderly lot of hands and have had very little trouble with them, we doing our part by them and they by us. As for children under 14 years of age we prefer not to employ them at all, as it is only now and then you will find one to keep their work up properly, but their parents often plead with us to take them with the plea that they must have them at work and other mills will work them, consequently in many cases we are almost compelled to take them, but we find it more profitable to work older hands at higher prices, as an older boy or girl can see the importance of keeping their work in nice order.

ALEXANDER.

MANUFACTURER.—Labor abundant, but not very reliable. We employ eight men at wages ranging from 75 cents to $1.50 per day, seventeen women at 33⅓ cents per day, three children at 25 cents per day. Days work 11 hours. Pay wages weekly. House rent and fuel free to all employees. Paid out for labor during the year $3,750.

CABARRUS.

MANUFACTUER.—We employed during the year ending September 1st, 1887, an average of 298 employees; greatest number employed at one time, 342. Paid out for labor during the year, $56,261.08. There is a very decided improvement in the moral and educational condition of our people. We maintain a day school for the benefit of our employees and their children. We employ no child under 12 that cannot read and write. There is also a good Sunday-school, which is well attended.

EMPLOYER.—There are 85 employees at work in this mill. Wages are paid in cash every two weeks. No trade checks are used. The educational and religious opportunities of the employees are as good as could be desired. A good day school is kept up nine months in the year; churches and Sunday schools are convenient to them, but we regret that there are so few of the operatives who appreciate these advantages. Of our employees about one-half the adults and one-third the children can read and write. Not over 10 per cent. of them save anything out of their earnings and only four families live in houses owned by themselves.

CATAWBA.

EMPLOYER.—Our hands are exceptionally of good character, noted for their virtue and temperance. Temperance and virtue are required of all. One offence is dealt with by discharge.

CLEVELAND.

EMPLOYER.—We give you as nearly as possible what we consider most vital in your investigation. The hands we have are persons who have failed to make a good living on the farm—here they do make it, but instead of laying up money they live on the best they can get and about spend their wages as they are paid. Would do it if they were double. They are contented and happy. We sell them everything they need as low as *cash* will buy it anywhere, and butter, eggs, milk, etc., cost but little here. We have letters from families this week who left us two years ago, wanting to get back here and saying if they could they would never leave again. We treat our hands kindly and work to their interest. Four years ago we were loosing money running; we told the hands so and they at once unanimously agreed to lower wages. In two months business improved and we at once put up wages. Our hands generally are moral, and whiskey is not tolerated here *at all.*

DURHAM.

EMPLOYER.—We have a very moral place; we have no drinking around our mill. In answering question about the saving of earnings, we do not know just how many save their money, but we do know of several who have from $100 to

$500 now, which they have saved up since they came to our place. Our operatives we think make as much and several of them more, than at any other mill in the State. They seem perfectly satisfied and we have had no trouble whatever in regard to strikes, etc. Our mill has only been running about two years and only a few have built houses, though several are speaking of it now.

EMPLOYEE.—There are about 225 to 250 hands engaged at different classes of work in this mill, about 100 of them children—many of them very small children, under 12 years of age. Wages are about as good here as at any mill in the State and I think better than at many of them, the only trouble about wages is that they are not paid in cash—trade checks are issued with which employees are expected to buy what they need at the company's store, which is not right. The same system is practised I am told, at the most of the cotton mills in the State, but that does not make it right and just. The tobacco factories in this town pay the cash every week. Any man who has ever tried it knows there is a great difference in buying with the cash. This, with the long hours required for a day's work, (12 hours) is the only cause for complaint; the officers are kind and close attention to work and sobriety and morality is required of all who work here.

MECKLENBURG.

EMPLOYER.—We have 94 operatives, 19 men, 39 women, 24 youths, 12 children under fourteen years of age. Wages are paid every Saturday in *cash*—no trade checks are used and the mill runs no store. Employees live mostly in houses owned by the mill, for which no rent is charged. The educational and religious opportunities are of course excellent, as the factory is convenient to the churches and schools of Charlotte. Those who work in the mill have also the privilege of a night school. Nearly all adult employees can read and write, as can most of the children. Twenty per cent. save a part of their earnings and some few are getting nice little sums laid up.

PASQUOTANK.

MANUFACTURER.—This is a small mill, manufacturing seine twine mostly. Have employed an average of twenty-two hands during the year—three men, ten women, six youths, three children under twelve years. Work 10 hours per day. Wages are paid weekly in cash. There ought to be a law making 10 hours a days' work and forbidding the employment of children under twelve years of age in manufacturing establishments.

RANDOLPH.

EMPLOYEE.—I work in the cotton mills. They employ men, women and children—many children who are too small to work, they should be at school; the parents are more to blame than are the mill-owners. The hands in the mills in this section are doing very well, and if they only received their pay weekly in cash instead of "trade checks," and store accounts, they would not complain if they were paid in cash and were allowed to buy for cash where they pleased, it would be much better. Ten hours are enough for a day's work. I believe the mills here would be willing to it if there was a law making all conform to it. I believe compulsory education would be a benefit too.

COTTON MANUFACTURER.—We employ nine men, eighteen women, twenty-three youths, fourteen children under twelve years of age. Work 12 hours per day. Wages are paid weekly in trade checks, which are worth par value in cash the 10th of each month. We would settle with the cash all the time if we had a bank convenient to us, but to pay weekly in cash would require an extra hand on the road most of his time to keep a supply of money on hand. Our operatives are happy and contented with the present system; they make fair wages and have regular work. Their moral and educational interests are looked after also. There is no drinking nor profanity among our employees.

MANUFACTURER.—This factory employs forty hands. Paid out for labor past year, $8,244. Work 11½ hours per day and pay wages monthly. Our employees are working well and living comfortably. We have three churches in the village, also a good school which all employees can attend who wish.

ROCKINGHAM.

MANUFACTURER.—Our employees live in houses owned by the mill, have gardens, fruits, etc.; separate enclosures for each. They are virtuous, orderly and contented. We have no migratory hands. The factory village is a school district and we keep up a good school. Seventeen of our female unmarried employees hold $4,400 of good securities bought with savings from their wages in the mill. We use no trade checks, pay wages in cash every Monday.

RICHMOND.

EMPLOYER.—We hear no complaints on the part of our employees on any subject. If we could so arrange with other mills, we would prefer to have the work hours even less. It is best however, at present for the laborer, that we should not do so; they would get less wages of course. We would prefer that all families should own their own homes; it make a man permanent, and hence a more reliable set of employees. A part of our weavers operate two looms—they are not experts; the majority operate three, and about 12 four looms; a few, no donbt, would attend to five, but we think four enough for a good turn out. The looms average about 52 yards a day; four loom weavers get from 125 to 140 cuts a month. As stated, payments are made monthly, but any employee who is known to be prudent, can get advance at any time in money. We know nothing of checks. Is it possible that any manufacturer discounts his own paper when mature? That is not honest. We believe that employees are justly entitled to fair wages for their work. For several years we paid 30 cents to weavers for 46 yards. About three years ago we dropped to 25 cents, owing to trade depression and a desire to equalize wages. Our hands are satisfied and none leave us whom we care to keep.

GASTON.

MANUFACTURER.—We employ 75 hands, thirty men, thirty women, fifteen children. Pay wages weekly in trade checks. Work day and night. Twelve hours constitute a days' work. We are very particular in employing hands; no drinking person nor loose character can find work here if we know it—if we get one by accident they don't stay long.

EMPLOYEE.—This mill runs day and night. The day hands commence work at 6 o'clock in the morning and run tell 7 o'clock at night. They stop at 12 o'clock for dinner and ring the bell at 12:30 o'clock. I contend that the hands are in actual motion 13 hours per day. The trade check system is used here, and is not as good as cash, at this place nor any other place. If the hands trade their checks to any other firm, and they present them for cash, this firm demands a discount of 10 per cent. The best trade check used in this county is not worth over 75 per cent. Some of the checks used in this county are almost worthless. This long-hour system is destroying the health of all the young women who work in the mills. The employment of children in the mills at low wages keeps a great many men out of employment. Our Legislature should do something in regard the long-hour system and trade checks, and compel employers to pay cash for labor; then, you see, competition in trade would take place, and we could save some of our earnings, which would enable us to have night schools and improve our condition much in the way of education.

EMPLOYEE.—This statement is as near correct as I can get it outside of the proprietors. The store and check system is a curse to all the employees, and the next Legislature should wipe the check system out of existence. They are only issued for speculation on labor. They compel the hands to trade with the proprietors, as they are made payable in merchandise at the company's store.

EMPLOYEE.—This mill runs day and night; employs 24 hands in the day and 20 at night. The day hands work 12¼ hours per day, night hands 10½ hours. The greatest evils to factory hands is the long hours they have to labor and the pay in checks. Were it not for the long hours of labor, the factory hands would have night schools, from which they would derive great benefit; but to labor from 12¼ to 13¼ hours per day they can't attend night schools; and were it not for the check system they would establish coöperative establishments—but the check forbids that. If the hands do not trade at the company's store they are soon told they are not wanted any longer. The Legislature should pass laws forbidding the use of trade checks. What is most needed in all cotton mills is 10 hours to constitute a day's work and receive weekly payments in cash. The trade check in truth is not worth more than 75 per cent.

EMPLOYEE.—There are two mills here—one weaving and one warping. The company pays checks and they cash them when demanded, if they have the money. The spinners get 20 cents per side. If we trade the checks at any other than the company's store we have to give 20 per cent. discount. This is about all the information I can give you at present.

EMPLOYER.—The yarn business is depressed, unless cotton gets below a paying figure to planters. Small mills should not be built. The yarn business or trade is overdone here, and yet seems to be in a better condition than at the North or in Great Britain. We are fighting the world and the world is fighting us, and it is not a good place to invest money until we kill them out. This is questionable, as as the English are selling No. 32 cotton yarn at 4½ cents in advance of middling cotton as quoted in Liverpool. This shows no profit.

CHAPTER VI.

TOBACCO MANUFACTORIES.

The progress and importance of tobacco manufacturing in North Carolina is no less remarkable than the manufacture of cotton, and the same reasons which have caused cotton manufacturing to flourish are the same that have operated to develop the tobacco industries. In North Carolina the very best tobacco is grown that is to be found anywhere, and nearly the whole State is well suited to its cultivation, hence tobacco is grown and manufactured in all sections of the State, and is therefore one of the principal industries.

The census of 1880 shows that the number of tobacco factories in the State was 118, and the capital invested in them was $1,512,900. From information furnished the Bureau there seems to be between 150 and 200 factories now in North Carolina, many of them, it is true, are small enterprises with but little capital invested, and many on that account have not felt disposed to report. Forty-two factories have made returns to the Bureau. One of these reports a capital employed of $1,000,000. A part of those reporting do not answer all the questions asked them, but the information given is incorporated in table No. 8, in which will be found much interesting data in regard to wages, hours of labor, &c. Thirty-two of the forty-two factories reporting, represent their capital invested to be $2,300,000, a third more capital than was used in the 118 factories in operation in the State in 1880.

The energy of the people of North Carolina is most widely known in connection with the manufacture of tobacco. The reputation of the State in this regard is world-wide. What has been accomplished too, has been done by native North Carolinians starting with small capital. When the industrial progress of the State shall be fully written it will doubtless be found that the same statement can be made in regard to nearly all our successful industries—certainly it can be said of the progress and prosperity of cotton and tobacco industries—that North Carolina brains, energy and capital have been the factors which produced to magnificent results attained. The future development of the State will depend mostly upon the same agencies it may be safely assumed.

TABLE No. 8.—SHOWING AVERAGE WAGES PAID DIFFERENT CLASSES OF LABOR IN
TABULATED FROM RETURNS RECEIVED

	WAGE HANDS.						AVERAGE WAGES PAID.												
	Average No. men employed.	Women.	Child'n and yo'th.	Child'n und. 14 y'rs	Total.	Hours constituting day's work.	Foreman per day.	Cutting Room, men per day.	Boys per day.	Packing Room, men per day.	Stamping, &c., men per day.	Women per day.	Boys per day.	Girls.	Box'g and Ship'g, men per day.	Boys.	Classers or Pick'rs, men per day.	Women per day.	Stem'rs, b'ys p'r d'y
BUNCOMBE.																			
Smoking Tobaccos	3	4	..	..	7	10	....	85	..	85	85	50	..	..	85	..	....	..	..
CASWELL.																			
Plug, Twist & Sm'k'g	10	5	6	..	21	12	....	50	..	50	50	..	50	50	50	..	50	50	50
Plug Chewing	9	4	12	8	25	10	....	40	..	40	....	..	..	..	....	..	40	40	25
CATAWBA.																			
Plug & Twist Chew'g	5	6	15	..	26	10	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	80	80	50
Smoking Tobaccos	2	..	4	..	6	10	1 00	75	40	75	75	..	40	..	....	..	....	..	..
Smoki'g and Chew'g	....	....	..	..	....	....	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..
Smoking Tobaccos	2	2	..	10	14	10	1 00	75	25	75	....	..	25	..	..	..	....	..	..
CLEVELAND.																			
Chewing Tobaccos	10	15	10	..	35	10	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	60	40	20
DAVIE.																			
Plug Chewing	4	4	12	8	28	11	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	50	50	25
DAVIDSON.																			
Chewing & Smoking	17	15	15	10	57	10	....	75	30	50	....	50	30	30	50	25	50	50	25
DURHAM.																			
Cigarette & Smo. Tob	....	....	..	..	725	10	....	75	50	75	....	..	40	..	1 00	..	....	..	..
Smoking Tobaccos	300	100	50	..	450	10	2 85	80	..	70	75	45	40	40	75	..	....	..	..
FORSYTH.																			
Plug & Twist Chew'g	40	25	20	20	105	11	....	....	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	..	75	65	45
Chewing and Smok.	100	50	50	40	240	10	2 00	75	40	1 00	....	60	50	..	1 00	..	75	75	50
Plug Chewing	30	40	30	..	100	12	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	65	..	50
Plug & Twist Chew'g	40	25	35	..	100	11	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	60	60	60
Chewing and Smok.	20	15	25	15	75	12	3 00	....	..	....	....	..	..		....	..	80	65	45
Plug Chewing	50	40	50	15	165	10	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	80	60	50
Plug & Twist Chew'g	....	....	..	..	....	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..
Chewing Tobaccos	300	60	40	..	400	11½	..	..	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	80	60	50
HERTFORD.																			
Plug Chewing	7	....	2	..	9	12	....	75	40	50	....	..	..	..	....	..	75	..	40
IREDELL.																			
Chewing and Smok.	25	20	30	..	75	10	....	75	40	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	75	60	30
MONTGOMERY.																			
Plug & Twist Chew'g	1	....	..	3	4	12	....	75	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	75	..	..
McDOWELL.																			
Chewi'g and Smok'g	12	7	11	..	30	10	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	75	50	40
ORANGE.																			
Smoking Tobaccos	2	....	2	..	4	10	....	60	25	....	....	..	25	25	60	25	....	..	..
ROCKINGHAM.																			
Fine Plug and Twist	85	70	77	32	264	11½	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	1 00	80	40
Navy Plug & Twist	40	10	40	..	90	11	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	85	66	50
Plug & Twist Chew'g	40	25	60	..	125	11	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	85	75	45
ROWAN.																			
Plug & Twist Chew'g	20	15	30	..	65	12	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	70	50	40
Smoking Tobaccos	3	....	4	..	7	10	..	75	25	75	75	..	25	..	....	..	....	..	..
Plug and Twist	30	20	25	..	75	11	3 00	1 00	25	1 00	75	..	25	25	....	..	1 00	50	..
Chewing & Smoking	3	5	..	..	8	10	....	....	..	....	....	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..

FORTY TOBACCO MANUFACTORIES, FROM WHICH REPORTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, FROM EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

AVERAGE WAGES PAID.																					
Girls per day.	Rollers, average per day, men.	Per 100 pounds, men.	Screw Room, men per day.	Men per month.	Boys per day.	Cigarette makers, per 1,000.	Average wages per day.	Cigarette Packers, per 1,000.	Average per day.	Fireman per day.	Watchman per day.	Machinists per day.	Carpenters per day.	Laborers.	When are wages paid.	In cash.	Trade checks used.	Does factory run store?	Do employees live in hous's own'd by fact'ry	Do they pay rent.	Are educat'l and relig. advant'gs good or not?
--	----	----	----	--	--	----	----	---	--	----	----	----	- --	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	yes	good.
--	1 00	----	50	--	--	----	----	----	--	----	----	1 75	1 50	----	mthly	---	no	no	yes	no	good.
25	1 50	1 50	60	--	--	----	----	---	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	---	yes	no	no	---	good.
50	1 50	2 50	1 00	--	50	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	--	---	-----
--	----	----	----	--	--	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
--	----	----	----	--	--	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	-----	---	--	--	----	---	-----
--	----	----	---	--	--	----	----	----	--	----	---	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	---	---	good.
20	1 00	----	60	--	20	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	----	---	good.
25	1 50	---	50	--	25	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	---	yes	yes	yes	yes	good.
25	1 50	---	50	--	25	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	mthly	---	yes	---	yes	yes	good.
--	----	----	----	--	--	60	1 20	5-13	50	1 00	1 25	2 50	1 50	75	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
--	----	----	----	--	--	----	----	----	..	90	1 17	2 50	1 50	75	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
45	2 50	2 50	1 12	--	40	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	-	s-mon	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
50	2 00	2 50	1 00	--	50	----	----	----	--	1 00	----	----	2 00	75	s-mon	yes	no	no	yes	yes	good.
--	----	2 50	----	--	--	----	----	----	--	1 00	----	----	----	----	s-mon	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
50	2 25	2 25	1 16	--	30	----	----	----	--	1 00	----	----	1 00	----	s-mon	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
55	2 00	2 25	1 12	--	50	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	s-mon	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
50	4 00	2 50	----	--	--	---	----	----	--	1 00	----	----	1 50	75	s-mon	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
--	----	----	----	--	--	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	----	---	---	---	---	---	-----
50	2 50	2 50	80	--	50	---	----	----	--	----	---	---	---	----	s-mon	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
40	2 00	----	75	--	40	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
30	2 00	---	75	--	30	---	----	---	--	1 00	----	----	1 25	----	w'kly	---	---	--	---	---	good.
--	1 00	----	75	--	--	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	---	---	----	---	-----
40	2 75	2 50	75	40	--	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	yes	no	---	good.
--	---	----	----	--	--	----	---	----	--	----	----	----	----	---	s-mon	yes	no	no	----	---	good.
30	1 50	2 75	----	--	--	---	----	----	--	1 15	----	3 00	---	60	w'kly	yes	no	no	few	yes	good.
40	2 00	----	1 00	--	--	----	----	----	--	1 50	----	----	1 50	1 00	w'kly	yes	no	no	yes	yes	good.
40	2 25	----	1 00	--	--	----	----	----	--	1 00	----	---	--	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
40	3 00	2 25	1 00	--	--	----	----	----	--	.	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
--	----	---	----	--	--	---	----	----	--	75	---	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	---	good.
--	2 50	3 00	1 00	--	-	----	----	----	--	----	----	--	----	---	s-mon	---	no	no	no	---	good.
--	1 75	--	1 00	--	--	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	---	good.

TABLE No.

	WAGE HANDS.					Hours constituting day's work.	AVERAGE WAGES PAID.													
	Average No. men employed.	Women.	Child'n and yo'ths.	Child'n und. 14 y'rs	Total.		Foreman per day.	Cutting Room, men per day.	Boys per day.	Packing Room, men per day.	Stamping, &c., men per day.	Women per day.	Boys per day.	Girls.	Boxi'g and Ship'g, men per day.	Boys.	Classers or Pick'rs, men per day.	Women per day.	Stem'rs, b'ys p'r d'y
SURRY.																				
Chewing Tobacco	10	10	30			11											75	60	25	
SWAIN.																				
Chewing & Smoking	3	5				10		75									75	50	30	
WAKE.																				
Chewing Tobacco	6	4	8		18	11											90	40	25	
Smoking Tobacco	3		5		8	10	2 00	75	50	75			40			50				
YADKIN.																				
Chewing & Smoking	10	15	8		33	10		50					35	35				50	25	
Chewing & Smoking	2	8			10	10												30	25	
Plug, Twist & Smok'g	3	8	4	5	20	10	1 00											30	25	

8.—CONTINUED.

AVERAGE WAGES PAID.																					
Girls per day.	Rollers, average per day, men.	Per 100 pounds, men.	Screw Room, men per day.	Men per month.	Boys per day.	Cigarette makers, per 1,000.	Average wages per day.	Cigarette packers, per 1,000.	Average per day.	Fireman per day.	Watchman per day.	Machinists per day.	Carpenters per day.	Laborers.	When are wages paid?	In cash?	Trade checks used?	Does factory run store?	Do employees live in hous's own'd by fact'ry	Do they pay rent?	Are educat'l and relig. advant'gs good or not?
25	1 25	----	65	30	--	----	----	----	--	1 00	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	---	fair.
30	1 25	----	60	30	--	----	----	----	--	---	----	----	----	----	w'kly	---	---	---	----	---	no.
25	1 50	----	75	--	--	----	----	---	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes
--	----	----	----	--	--	---	----	---	--	----	---	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes
25	1 75	1 50	80	--	40	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	w'kly	yes	no	no	no	--	good
25	1 25	----	50	--	25	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	------	---	no	no	----	---	fair.
25	75	75	50	--	25	----	----	----	--	----	----	--	----	----	w'kly	no	yes	yes	no	---	no.

TABLE No. 9.—SHOWING MONTHS IN OPERATION, CAPITAL EMPLOYED, WOMEN AND CHILDREN EMPLOYED, &C., IN THE TOBACCO

	Months in operation, year ending Sept. 1, '87.	Capital employed.	Pounds leaf tobacco consumed.	Value product for the year.	Amount product stated in pounds, thousands, etc.	No. men employed.
BUNCOMBE.						
Smoking Tobacco	8	$ 4,500		$		3
CASWELL.						
Plug, Twist and Smoking	4	1,500	12,000			10
Plug Chewing	5	8,000	50,000	10,000	37,500	9
CATAWBA.						
Plug and Twist Chewing	4	1,000	15,000	3,000		5
Smoking Tobacco	8	3,000	50,000	8,000		2
Smoking Tobacco						2
Chewing and Sm'k'g Tob.,	7	5,000		40,000		9
CLEVELAND.						
Chewing Tobacco	6	25,000		15,000		10
DAVIE.						
Plug Chewing		3,000				8
DAVIDSON.						
Chewing and Smoking	5	15,000	75,000	30,000		17
DURHAM.						
Cigarettes and Sm'g Tob.,	12	500,000	1,800,000	1,500,000	350 mil. cig, 700,000	
Smoking Tobacco	11	1,000,000	3,676,000	882,180	2,756,813	300
FORSYTH.						
Plug and Twist	9					75
Chewing and Sm'k'g Tob.,	12	200,000	600,000		500,000	100
Plug Tobacco	6	50,000	200,000		150,000	30
Plug and Twist Tobacco	7	35,000	225,000	70,000	170,000	40
Chewing and Sm'k'g Tob.,	9	15,000	200,000	60,000	125,000	20
Plug Tobacco	9	60,000	425,000	105,000	350,000	50
Plug and Twist Tobacco	8	25,000	225,000	50,000	180,000	40
Chewing Tobacco	7	150,000	900,000	350,000		300
HERTFORD.						
Plug	5	2,000	20,000			
IREDELL.						
Chewing and Smoking	9	30,000		75,000	150,000	25
MONTGOMERY.						
Plug and Twist	4	500	900	156	625	1
MCDOWELL.						
Chewing and Smoking	6	8,000	45,000			12
ORANGE.						
Smoking Tobacco	8			6,000	25,000	2
ROCKINGHAM.						
Fine Plug and Twist	10	65,000	632,000	132,500	475,000	85
Navy Plug and Twist	9	20,000	200,000	50,000		40
Plug and Twist Chewing	9		450,000	100,000	360,000	40
ROWAN.						
Plug and Twist Chewing	5	20,000	100,000			20
Smoking Tobacco	3	3,000	20,000	5,000	16,000	3
Plug and Twist	5	20,000	100,000			30

LEAF TOBACCO CONSUMED, PRODUCT AND VALUE OF SAME, NUMBER MEN, MANUFACTORIES IN THE STATE, REPORTING TO THE BUREAU.

Women.	Children and youths.	Children under 14 years of age.	Total.	Hours constituting day's work.	Are wages paid by day, week or month?	Are trade checks used?	Does the factory firm own a store?	Are employees requir'd to trade there?	Have they good educational and religious opportunities?	What per ct. adult employees read and write?	What per ct. children read and write?	What per ct. save part their earnings?	How many live in their own homes?
4	----	----	----	10	week.	no	no	----	yes.	50	----	50	65
5	6	----	----	12	month.	no	no	----	yes.	100	50	----	50
4	12	8	25	12	week.	yes	no	--	excellent.	----	----	----	----
6	15	----	26	10	----------	---	----	---	----------	----	----	----	----
2	10	--	14	10	week.	no	no	---	good.	----	--	---	----
----	4	----	6	10	week.	no	no	----	good.	33	100	----	----
9	8	----	26	12	week.	no	no	---	good.	100	100	few	few
15	10	----	35	10	week.	no	no	---	good.	80	75	10	25
4	12	8	24	11	week.	yes	yes	yes	good.	75	50	20	----
15	15	10	57	12	month.	yes	----	----	good.	30	25	33	5
---	----	----	725	10	week.	no	no	----	excellent.	--	--	----	----
100	50	----	450	10	week.	no	no	----	excellent.	50	30	25	5
50	40	10	175	11½	semi-m'thly	no	no	---	good.	75	75	6	33
50	50	40	240	10	semi-m'thly	no	no	---	excellent.	5	5	1	1
40	30	---	100	12	semi-m'thly	no	no	---	good.	50	----	10	10
25	20	20	105	11	semi-m'thly	no	no	---	good.	20	10	5	5
15	25	15	75	12	semi-m'thly	no	no	----	good.	----	--	----	----
40	50	15	165	10	semi-m'thly	no	no	----	good.	75	50	----	few
25	35	----	100	11	semi-m'thly	no	no	----	fair.	33	----	5	6
60	40	---	400	10	semi-m'thly	no	no	----	good.	----	--	10	10
7	----	2	- -	12	month.	----	----	----	fair.	----	----	----	----
20	30	----	75	10	semi-mth'ly	no	no	----	fair.	50	50	90	75
----	----	3	4	----	daily.	----	---	----	fair.	----	----	----	----
7	11	----	30	10	week.	no	yes	----	excellent.	----	----	----	----
----	2	----	4	10	semi-m'thly	no	no	----	good.	100	100	----	----
70	77	32	264	11½	weekly	no	no	----	the best.	----	----	----	----
10	40	----	90	11	weekly	no	no	----	good.	66	90	20	few
25	60	----	125	11	weekly	no	no	----	good.	80	66	25	10
15	30	----	----	12	weekly	no	no	----	good.	50	50	----	25
----	4	----	7	10	weekly	no	no	----	good.	100	50	----	----
20	25	----	75	11	semi-m'thly	----	----	----	good.	----	----	----	----

TABLE NO.

	Months in operation, year ending Sept. 1, '87.	Capital employed.	Pounds leaf tobacco consumed.	Value product for the year.	Amount product stated in pounds, thousands, etc.	No. men employed.
SWAIN.						
Plug and Smoking	5	$ 6,000	10,000	$		3
SURRY.						
Chewing Tobacco	5	10,000		15,000		10
YADKIN.						
Plug and Smoking	5	4,000	35,000			10
Chewing and Smoking	3 1/6	3,000	35,000	2,600	15,000	3
Plug, Twist and Smoking,	3 1/2	1,000	12,000	2,000	10,000	2
WAKE.						
Chewing Tobacco	5					6

9.—CONTINUED.

Women.	Children and youths.	Children under 14 years of age.	Total.	Hours constituting day's work.	Are wages paid by day, week or month?	Are trade checks used?	Does the factory firm own a store?	Are employees requir'd to trade there?	Have they good educational and religious opportunities?	What per ct. adult employees read and write?	What per ct. children read and write?	What per ct. save part their earnings?	How many live in their own homes?
5	....	....	8	10	weekly.	no.	no.	....	fair.	100	..	50	....
10	30	....	50	11	semi-m'thly	no.	no.	....	fair.	75	75	5	few
15	8	....	33	10	weekly.	no.	no.	....	good.	10	4	20	75
8	4	5	20	10	weekly.	yes.	yes.	....	fair.	100	75	75	90
8	....	....	10	....	.....	no.	no.	....	fair.	....	....	....	....
4	..	8	18	12	weekly.	no.	no.	..	excellent.	50	75	....	....

CHAPTER VII.

RAILROADS.

Recognizing the fact that the railroads in the State are large employers of labor, the Bureau has thought it proper to make an effort to give in this report such information concerning them as is of special importance to the purposes of the Bureau. We are glad to state that the officers of various railroads have responded to our requests for reports, and through their kindness and promptness we are able to present the facts contained in this chapter.

The total number of miles of railroad in operation in this State, as reported to this Bureau, is 1,815. Total number persons employed, 4,975.

CAROLINA CENTRAL RAILROAD.

Miles of road in this State, 269 9-10.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 736.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	21	$ 46 50
Train Dispatchers	1	95 00
Operators and Station Agents	44	45 43

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Master and assistant master mechanics	2	$ 4 42	
Locomotive engineers	19	3 33	
Locomotive firemen	21	95	
Passenger conductors	5	2 50	
Freight conductors	4	2 00	
Car builders and carpenters (white and col.)	58	1 31	
Brakemen (white)	5	96	
Brakemen (colored)	42	75	
Machinists in shop	34	2 00	
Watchmen (white)	7	1 30	
Section hands (colored)	243	60	
Telegraph operators	6	1 25	
Laborers (white and colored)	118	63	
Flagmen and switch-tenders (colored)	3	1 00	
Other employees (white)	47	1 10	
Other employees (colored)	56	75	

RICHMOND AND DANVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY.

(WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION.)

Miles of road in this State, 331¼.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 900.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 730.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	32	$ 65 00
Train dispatchers	4	100 00
Operators	20	35 50
Station agents	39	40 00

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Master and assistant master mechanics	3	$ 4 50	10
Locomotive engineers	38	3 84	10
Locomotive firemen	38	1 55	10
Passenger conductors	7	2 88	10
Freight conductors	17	2 27	10
Car builders and carpenters(white and col.)	16	1 75	10
Brakemen (white and colored)	52	1 19	10
Machinists in shop	15	1 75	10
Watchmen (white and colored)	11	1 09	14
Section hands (white and colored)	560	78	10
Laborers (white and colored)	315	75	10
Flagmen and switch-tenders (white and c.)	24	1 19	10
Other employees (white and colored)	139	1 37	10

ALMA AND LITTLE ROCK RAILROAD COMPANY.

Miles of road in this State, 12.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 13.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 13.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Operators and Station Agents	3	$ 36 66

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Locomotive engineers	1	$ 2 88	10
Locomotive firemen	1	1 35	10
Brakemen (colored)	3	75	10
Section hands (white)	1	68	10
Section hands (colored)	6	68	10
Section master	1	1 35	10

WILMINGTON AND WELDON RAILROAD AND BRANCHES.

Miles of road in this State, 325.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 1,045.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks (from $25 to $100)	24	$ 40 00
Train dispatchers	2	95 00
Operators, station agents and assistants*	53	50 00

* Nearly all station agents are operators and have joint duties.

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Av. Monthly Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Master mechanic	1		$175 00	
Foreman	1		90 00	
Locomotive engineers	29	Paid by mile.		
Locomotive firemen	29	$ 1 00		
Passenger conductors	10		90 00	
Freight conductors	9		65 00	10
Car builders and carpenters†	25	2 00		
Brakemen†	47		16 50	
Machinists in shop	14	2 50		10
Watchmen†	11		30 00	
Section hands†	309		$14 & rations.	
Laborers (station hands)	43		16 50 "	
Laborers in shops	20	1 75		
Flagmen and switch-tenders†	7	1 00		
Other employees†	403			

† We keep no separate showing for white and colored.

CHOWAN AND SOUTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY.

Miles of road in this State, October 1st, 1887, 15.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 57.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 75.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	1	$ 50 00

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Locomotive engineers	2	$ 1 25	12
Locomotive firemen	2	90	12
Passenger and Freight conductors	1	1 93	12
Brakemen (white)	1	1 00	12
Brakemen (colored)	1	1 00	12
Laborers	208	90	Sun to Sun

NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILROAD.

Miles of road in this State, 54 $\frac{89}{100}$.

Average number of employees from Oct. 1st, 1886, to Sept. 30th, 1887, 279.

Total number of employees September, 1887, 309.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	18	$ 49 63
Train Dispatchers	1	60 00
Operators	5	40 00
Station agents	18	31 53
Road Master	1	90 00
Train Master	1	90 00

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Monthly Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Master mechanics	1		$ 100 00	
Locomotive engineers	5		73 00	12
Locomotive firemen	5	$ 1 00		8
Passenger conductors	1		60 00	12
Freight conductors	3		60 00	12
Car builders and carpenters	2	2 25		10
Blacksmith	1	2 50		10
Brakemen (white)	1	1 00		8
Brakemen (colored)	10	1 00		12
Machinists in shop	1	2 50		10
Watchmen (white)	5		33 00	12
Carpenters (white)	3	2 25		10
Section Foremen (white)	9	1 34		12
Section hands (colored)	50	70		10
Telegraph operators	5		40 00	12
Laborers (white)	2	1 05		12
Laborers (colored)	53	1 00		12
Yard Masters (white)	2		40 00	12
Switchmen (colored)	2	1 00		12
Bridge tenders (white)	3	1 00		
Bridge tenders (colored)	1	1 00		
Section Foreman (colored)	1	1 34		12
Porters (colored)	5		36 00	12
Blacksmith helper	1	1 25		10
Overhaulers	4	1 50		10

DANVILLE, MOCKSVILLE AND SOUTHWESTERN RAILROAD CO.

Miles of road in this State, 8.

This road is held by the United States Court through a Receiver and is operated by the Danville and New River road, and the Danville, Mocksville and Southwestern Railroad Company has not a single employee, and the Danville and New River Road has but two in North Carolina—one station agent at $40.00 per month and one laborer at $18.00.

Office of the D. & M. R. R. Co. is Danville, Va.; J. Turner Morehead, Receiver D. M. & S. W. R. R. Co.

CAPE FEAR AND YADKIN VALLEY RAILWAY.

Miles of road in this State, 191 7-10.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 286.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 321.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	3	$ 50 00
Operators	3	45 00
Station agents and operators	28	33 25

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Master and assistant master mechanics	1	$ 3 33⅓	
Locomotive engineers	10	3 50	
Locomotive firemen	12	1 00	
Passenger conductors	2	2 50	
Freight conductors	5	2 12	
Car builders and carpenters (white)	5	1 90	
Brakemen (white)	4	1 00	
Brakemen (colored)	11	1 00	
Machinists in shop	4	2 25	
Watchmen (white)	2	95	
Watchmen (colored)	1	95	
Section hands (white and colored)	156	50	
Laborers (white and colored)	48	75	
Flagmen and switch-tenders (colored)	1	50	
Other employees (white)	25	1 07	

MILTON AND SUTHERLIN NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD.

Miles of road in this State, ¼. (Total length of road 12 miles).

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 10.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 10.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Station agents	1	$ 50 00

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Locomotive engineers	1	$ 1 66⅔	10
Locomotive firemen	1	66⅔	10
Passenger and Freight conductors	1	1 16⅔	10
Section hands (colored)	4	60	10
Laborers (colored)	1	60	10
Other employees (white)	1	1 16⅔	10

NORTH-WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD.

Miles of road in this State, 28 3-10.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 31.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 31.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	2	$ 32 50
Operators	2	40 00
Station agents	2	57 50

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Locomotive engineers	2	$ 2 50	10
Locomotive firemen	1	1 50	10
Passenger and Freight conductors	1	3 00	10
Brakemen (white)	1	1 12½	10
Brakemen (colored)	3	1 00	10
Watchmen (white)	1	1 00	10
Section hands (colored)	8	60	10
Laborers (white)	1	33⅓	10
Laborers (colored)	4	70	10
Other employees (white)	3	1 00	10

SUFFOLK AND CAROLINA.

Miles of road in this State, 16.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 100.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 100.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Station agents (engaged in other business)	4	$ 10 00

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Av. Monthly Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Locomotive engineers	2		$ 50 00	12
Locomotive firemen	2		35 00	12
Conductors	2		45 00	12
Brakemen (white)	2		26 00	12
Brakemen (colored)	6		22 00	12
Section hands (white)	2	85		Sun to sun.
Section hands (colored)	12	85		Sun to sun.
Laborers (white)	10	90		Sun to sun.
Laborers (colored)	50	80		Sun to sun.
Other employees (white)	4	1 50		Sun to sun.
Other employees (colored)	4	80		Sun to sun.

RALEIGH AND GASTON AND RALEIGH AND AUGUSTA AIR-LINE RAILROADS AND BRANCHES.

Miles of road in this State, 226.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 700.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 718.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	7	$ 50 00
Train Dispatchers	1	100 00
Station agents	41	46 00

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Master and assistant master mechanics	2	$ 3 17	10
Locomotive engineers	25	2 68	
Locomotive firemen	25	83	
Passenger conductors	3	2 50	
Freight conductors	7	2 00	
Car builders and carpenters (white)	12	1 80	
Brakemen (colored)	48	62⅔	
Machinists in shop	26	1 89	
Watchmen (white)	6	1 16	
Section hands (white)	12	*42	
Section hands (colored)	200	*42	
Telegraph operators	1	60	
Laborers (white)	19	89	
Laborers (colored)	18	80	
Other employees (white)	75		
Other employees (colored)	115		

* Rations furnished them.

CHERAW AND SALISBURY RAILROAD.

Miles of road in this State, 14.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 13.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 13.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Station agents	3	$ 33 33

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Section hands (colored)	10	50	

NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD.

Miles of road in this State, 223.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 633.

Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 633.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	47	$ 46 08
Train dispatchers	3	100 00
Operators	12	41 23
Station agents	29	54 05

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Shop foremen	2	$ 3 75	10
Locomotive engineers	28	2 75	10
Locomotive firemen	32	1 50	10
Passenger conductors	5	2 70	10
Freight conductors	22	2 35	10
Car builders and carpenters (white)	21	1 87	10
Brakemen (white)	42	1 10	10
Brakemen (colored)	29	1 10	10
Machinists in shop	5	2 45	10
Watchmen (white)	10	1 19	10
Section hands (white and colored)	168	60	10
Laborers (white)	13	87	10
Laborers (colored)	64	72	10
Flagmen and switch-tenders (white)	6	78	10
Other employees (white)	65	1 39	10
Other employees (colored)	30	95	10

WILMINGTON, CHADBOURN AND CONWAY RAILROAD.

Miles of road in this State, 14.

Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 37.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	2	$ 50 00
Station agents and operators	3	25 00

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Av. Monthly Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Locomotive engineers	2		$100 00	10
Locomotive firemen	2	$ 1 00		
Watchman (colored)	1		25 00	
Section hands (white)	4		30 00	
Section hands (colored	24	80		

PIEDMONT (RICHMOND AND DANVILLE) RAILROAD.

Miles of road in this State, 42.
Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 44.
Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 72.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Clerks	2	$ 37 50
Operators	2	40 00
Station agents	4	47 50

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Locomotive engineers	7	$ 2 75	10
Locomotive firemen	8	1 50	10
Passenger conductors	1	3 00	10
Freight conductors	3	2 35	10
Brakemen (white)	4	1 10	10
Brakemen (colored)	6	1 10	10
Section hands (white and colored)	35	80	10
Laborers (colored)	2	60	10
Other employees (white)	10	1 14	10
Other employees (colored)	1	80	10

STATE UNIVERSITY RAILROAD.

Miles of road in this State, 10 1-5.
Average number of employees from January 1st, 1886, to January 1st, 1887, 10.
Total number of employees January 1st, 1887, 10.

OFFICE HELP.

	Number Employed.	Average Monthly Salary.
Station agents	1	$ 40 00

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Number Employed.	Average Daily Wages.	Hours of Labor Daily.
Locomotive engineers	1	$ 1 93	10
Locomotive firemen	1	1 00	10
Passenger and Freight conductors	1	2 $33\frac{1}{3}$	10
Brakemen (white)	1	$66\frac{2}{3}$	10
Section hands (colored)	4	60	10
Other employees (white)	1	1 $33\frac{1}{3}$	10
Other employees (colored)	1	14	1

CHARLESTON, CINCINNATI & CHICAGO RAILROAD COMPANY.

Miles of road in this State, 40.
This road was opened April 18th, 1887.

CHAPTER VIII.

CONVICT LABOR.

The best method for the State to adopt in utilizing convict labor has become an important and interesting question in this State as it has in all the States of the Union. A vast deal has been said and a great amount of information collected upon the subject by prison reformers, prison authorities, mechanics and manufacturers. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics by direction of Congress, has investigated the subject and has published a volumnious report during the past year embodying much valuable data. The question has also received the attention of most of the State Bureaus of Labor Statistics which are in operation in the country, there being at present twenty of these Bureaus in the different States. In some sections of the country the discussion has been carried on for decades, systems have been changed and changed again in order to remove objections and to find the best plan to adopt to harmonize these conflicting opinions and interests. The changes have been made at great expense, only to find the system last adopted as earnestly opposed as the one it superseded, so that notwithstanding all that has been said and all the information that has been collected upon the subject of convict labor and the best methods to adopt in utilizing the same, the question is still an open one even in those States that have given it the longest and most earnest consideration.

As this question in all its phases is fast forcing itself upon the public mind in our State, this Bureau has believed that practical service might be rendered the State by collecting the best thought which it could gather at home and abroad in reference to it. Communications were therefore addressed by us to the penitentiary authorities of the various States of the Union and to firms and individuals in North Carolina, soliciting their views as to the best method for the State to adopt in utilizing convict labor, taking into consideration the best interest of the State, the best interest of free labor and

the best interest of the convict. Replies were received from prison authorities in twenty-eight States and from many of our home mechanics, manufacturers and others, all of which will be found in this chapter.

The largest proportion of prison authorities favor the contract system in preference to any other. Other prison authorities favor the public account and piece plan as best. The lease system has but few supporters. The different systems discussed are explained and defined as follows:

1. *The Contract System* is one under which a contractor employs convicts usually for a term of years at a certain agreed price per day for their labor, the control of the prisoners being under the prison authorities, but working under the immediate direction of the contractor or his agents. By this system the institution usually furnishes the contractor the power necessary and the buildings, the contractor furnishing machinery and materials.

2. *The Public Account System* is one where the institution carries on the business of manufacturing like an individual or firm, buying raw materials and manufacturing them into articles which are sold by the institution in the best available market.

3. *The Piece Price System* is where the contractor furnishes the prison the materials in a proper shape for working and receives from the prison the manufactured article at an agreed price per piece, the supervision of the work and the convicts being entirely in the hands of the prison officials. If any article manufactured does not come up to the standard agreed upon the loss falls on the State.

4. *The Lease System* is where the prison authorities lease the convicts for a specified sum and for a fixed period, the lessee usually agreeing to keep and maintain the prisoners while the lease is in operation. Under the lease system the convicts are worked outside of the prison and the discipline is in the hands of the lessees.

I. Of the above systems the greatest opposition has been directed against the contract system. Manufactures, mechanics and prison reformers, have alike, opposed it, and yet it has been the most prevalent system and has many determined advocates, as will be seen from the correspondence of the Bureau. Prison reformers oppose it because it is claimed that reformatory methods cannot be put into practice where the convict is for 10 hours per day under the direc-

tion of the contractor and his officers, who are intent alone upon getting all the work possible out of the convict. No thought is given by the contractor to the moral or mental training of the convict, and no stipulation in the contract upon that point would amount to anything. Very little attention is given to the mechanical training of the convict—he is simply classed with the manufacturing machines of the contractor. The reformer says this course ought not to be pursued; that some notice ought to be given to the reformation of the convict by paying special attention to his moral and mechanical training, to the end that he may be a better and more useful man when he comes out of prison than when he was put in. The tendency of the contract system is against such a result, and hence the opposition of the reformer.

The manufacturer and the mechanic oppose the contract system because they say it disturbs the labor and commercial market more than any other system. A contractor at the beginning of his contract does not make much money. He must first put in his machinery and learn his hands the kinds of work he proposes to do (and only a man of considerable capital can undertake to carry on the contract system,) but after awhile the convict becomes proficient, and his work is fairly good and nearly equal in quantity and quality to that manufactured by the same force of free laborers; then it is, that the contract system begins to be felt, because the convict only gets some 40 or 50 cents per day, while the free laborer must of course have more. The trades carried on in a prison is usually confined to a half dozen, sometimes less, and the out put by the Penitentiary has a considerable effect upon the labor and commercial market which is prejudicial to these trades, especially is this so in the State where the Penitentiary may be situated—hence the opposition of the mechanic and manufacturer.

A large number of prison officers in the different States favor the contract system, because they claim that it is the most profitable of any of the systems named except perhaps the lease system. Penitentiaries can make a better financial showing under that system than any other. Convicts are hired out to experienced business men who work them for the money that is to be made simply. No expenditure is made for foremen to direct and instruct the convicts. The contractor must be at this expense, and must stand all losses for

bad workmanship, bad debts, spoiled goods, lost time, &c. All this the State must do under the State account or piece price plan. Wardens of prisons generally favor the contract system, because it removes responsibility. They are relieved from the necessity of being managers of manufacturing enterprises. They say that it is the proper system, because the convict should be worked for profit—that he has offended society by his crime and put the State to great expense to secure conviction, and hence he should recompense the State by his labor in that way which is most profitable; that the competition is inconsiderable and not enough to be considered when the whole amount of manufacturing and the general welfare of the State is taken into account. Mechanics and manufacturers on the other hand say, that even if the contract system is most profitable the State has no right to use its convict labor so as to degrade free labor and to ruin enterprises established by individuals; that in the end the system is most disastrous to the State.

II. The public account system is favored by prison reformers because the control of the convict is entirely in the hands of the State, where it should be as is claimed. By this system reformatory methods can be carried out, trades can be learned and general instruction given better than under any other system. The foreman and instructors are officers of the State. The public account system is very popular as a rule with mechanics and manufacturers, who say that under this system no individual is likely to secure any advantage in the production of goods not accorded to all manufacturers; that by this system occupations can be better regulated as to number and kind so as not to conflict with outside occupations; that by this system, too, the convicts can be best employed upon hand-made articles, thereby dispensing with the use of machinery, which prevents competition with free labor. The advocates of hand-made work say that convict imprisonment in the penitentiory should be both reformatory as well as punitory, and these ends are best subserved when convicts are employed on hand-made work, and at the same time it is claimed that competition is reduced to a minimum. The use of convict labor in the most profitable way is of course not the consideration moving those who advocate hand-made work.

Another reason why the public account system is favored is that whatever profit is made under any method of employment goes to the State and not to the pecuniary benefit of any single individual or concern. The public account system has its opponents who say that it is impossible to secure efficient wardens and at the same time men efficient as practical manufacturers, and that when the industries of a prison conducted on the public account system are diversified as it is claimed they should be, the difficulty becomes even greater. Then, too, it is said that if machinery is used and the officers of the prison are honest and skilful in the manufacture of goods the same objections as to competition would characterize the public account as the contract system, for the reason that the penitentiary authorities carrying on the business of manufacturing are not compelled to make a profit on the goods they manufacture like an individual, as they have the State Treasury behind them and having no labor to hire they can sell goods cheaper than private parties. While it is sometimes said that a law can be passed that the goods manufactured shall not be sold for less than the market price, yet experience has taught that a law cannot meet the objection. Convict goods as a general thing must be sold to purchasers for less than free labor goods or they will not be sold at all.

III. The piece price system is in the main agreeable to the reformer, because the control of the convict is maintained by the State, and therefore, reformatory methods are as well carried out as under the public account system.

Mechanics and manufacturers generally oppose the piece price system, because whatever competition grows out of the contract system so far as sales and the price of goods in the market are concerned, results from the piece price system. The State under this system transforms the raw material into a manufactured article, and does not appear in the market as a buyer or seller of goods. It simply sells the labor of the convict. Hence, when the goods are not as good as the standard fixed by the institution and the parties, the loss falls upon the State, and the State must take these refuse goods and do the best she can with them. The articles must be sold, and they are generally dumped upon the market for what can be got for them, usually to the detriment of both free labor and of the goods sold.

IV. The lease system is that system by which the State turns over the control of the convicts to private parties, and they care for, maintain and work them. Though in existence in some of the Southern States, this system meets with but little favor even where its results are best known. It is, however, the most profitable of any of the systems. All the State has to do is to turn over the convicts to the lessee and they are then worked to suit him. The system is in vogue in Georgia. Governor Gordon in a communication to the last legislature says of the lease system and its practical workings in that State: "The lease system places pecuniary interests in conflict with humanity. It makes possible the infliction of greater punishment than the law and the courts have imposed. It renders impracticable the proper care by the State of the health of the prisoners, or their requisite separation according to classes, sexes and conditions. It reduces to the minimum the chances for reformation. It will be generally admitted that they are of so grave a character that the State will not be justified in continuing the system, provided it can be changed legally and without violation of good faith."

The foregoing is a statement of the systems which have engaged the attention of prison authorities, prison reformers, mechanics, manufacturers and others throughout the country in the discussions which have been carried on in regard to convict labor. The reasons in favor of and the objections against the different systems, have also in the main been stated. Considering all that has been said in regard to them it would seem that the lease system meets with but little favor in any quarter. While it is a profitable system, and one that occasions least trouble and expense to the State, yet for the reasons stated above, it finds but few advocates, and hence may be dismissed from consideration.

In reference to the other systems—the contract, the public account and piece price—it appears that while there are reasons of a reformatory kind which would point to the public account or the piece price systems as the preferable ones as compared with the contract system, yet when competition with free labor is considered either of these three systems is as good as the other if they are conducted with the highest efficiency and with a view of making the labor used, as profitable as possible to the State. Take for instance the shoe business and let it be conducted by a contractor as efficiently as possible

under the contract system with improved machinery and skillful foremen, and then put these same agencies to work under the State by the public account or piece price system and it is hard to see why there should not be as much competition on the one hand as the other. The history of the changes that have occurred in the different States would indicate that the competition is the same or practically the same under either system when carried on with improved machinery and skilled State officers for the purpose of making the greatest profit to the State. The same objections to convict labor have been heard, and the same contests have been carried on in those States where the most changes have occurred. It may therefore be assumed that changes from the contract system to the public account or the piece price systems, (or *vice versa*) will not stop the objections to convict labor on the part of mechanics and manufacturers. If the work of the convicts is to be carried on in the most profitable way, one system is about as good as the other so far as competition with outside labor is concerned. This is so because whenever a convict would strike a lick of work he is in competition with every other man who would do the same work, and the practical question simply is, how many licks he is going to strike. Recognizing this fact and the fact that competition is the cause of most of the discussion in regard to convict labor, many of those who are most familiar with the convict labor question have come to the conclusion that the State ought not to use convict labor with a view to making a profit upon it. They assert that reformation should be the main object that should engage the attention of the State in utilizing convict labor; thereby lessening crime and making better citizens of the convicts. Those who represent this view recommend that the State should adopt the public account system, and under that system that the convicts be worked alone on hand-made goods, thereby banishing machine work from the prison. They say that the articles needed by the State prison and other State institutions should be first made in this way and the surplus time, if any, given to work of the same character for general use. It is claimed that this is a proper and just solution of the whole question. Of course this method reduces competition very materially, if no fine hand-made work is done, but it would doubtless be found to be a very costly method.

The plan of working convicts upon hand-made goods has been in operation in the Eastern Penitentiary of Pennsylvania, located at Philadelphia, and is very highly commended by the warden in a communication to this Bureau which will be found in the following pages. He says a great State ought not to engage in hurtful competition with its citizens in a mechanical way, and that the hand-made system of working convicts is the way to prevent it.

Looking over all that has been said by mechanics and manufacturers in regard to these systems, the contract, the public account and the piece price, it may be said that the hand-made method of employing convicts is the nearest approach to avoiding the objections which have been made against convict labor on account of its competition with free labor in mechanical pursuits. This is so because it reduces the amount of work done by the State through its convicts. That system which puts the fewest articles upon the market is least objectionable, and the one which puts the greatest number on the market is most objectionable. The fiercest opposition to convict labor has been occasioned by competition with free labor. The largest part of all that has been said about convict labor has been on this account, and when the complaint of mechanics and manufacturers are satisfied the other complaints will be an easy matter so far as the three systems mentioned are concerned.

Formerly the State account system was conducted by the Penitentiary in this State in making bricks, shoes, etc., but the authorities sometime ago ceased to manufacture these articles, except brick, on account of the opposition of mechanics, manufacturers and others. No mechanical work by convicts is now carried on in the Penitentiary save the employment of a few in the construction of the Penitentiary buildings. A few were employed upon the public buildings constructed in Raleigh last year, but nearly all the convicts of the State are engaged upon State farms, building railroads, canals and working upon dirt roads, so that the competition of convict labor with free labor in a mechanical way receives very little attention in North Carolina. It is hardly a practical question at present because nearly all the labor of the convicts is employed in an unskilled way as indicated above, there being a great demand for convicts for this kind of work.

The chief difference of opinion in this State as to the best method for the employment of convict labor, is as to whether it should be employed by the counties in the improvement of dirt roads or by the State in pushing forward works of internal improvement, such as building railroads, canals, etc.

The working of convicts upon the dirt roads is very popular with many of the correspondents of the Bureau as will be seen. A considerable number believe that the use of the whipping post would have a good influence upon our criminal classes, very many people of the State favor the employment of all short term criminals upon the dirt roads in the different counties, making the Penitentiary simply a place for the long term criminals. This sentiment found expression in the act passed by the Legislature at its last session entitled "An Act to provide for the working of certain convicts upon the public roads of the State," Chapter 355, laws 1887, which is as follows:

SECTION 1. That when any county has made provision for the working of convicts upon the public roads, or when any number of counties have jointly made provision for working convicts upon the public roads, it shall be lawful for, and the duty of the Judge holding court in such counties, to sentence to imprisonment and hard labor upon the public roads for such terms as are now prescribed by law for their imprisonment in the county jails or in the State prison, the following classes of convicts; first, all persons convicted of offences the punishment whereof would otherwise be wholly, or in part, imprisonment in the common jail; second, all persons convicted of crimes the punishment whereof would otherwise wholly or in part be imprisonment in the penitentiary for a term not exceeding ten years.

SEC. 2. That convicts sentenced to hard labor upon the public roads, under provisions of section one of this Act, shall be under the control of the county authorities, and said county authorities shall have power to enact all needful rules and regulations for the successful working of all convicts upon said public roads; *provided*, the County Commissioners shall have power to work such convicts on the public roads or canaling the main drains and swamps.

SEC. 3. That nothing contained in this Act shall in any way affect, interfere with, or diminish any convicts granted or assigned to any railroad or other work of internal improvement, either by contract executed prior to this Act, or granted or assigned by any prior Act of this General Assembly.

SEC. 4. That in all cases where the Judge presiding shall be satisfied that there is good reason to fear that an attempt to release or to injure any person convicted of any of the offences mentioned in section one of this Act, class second, it shall be lawful for the Judge to sentence such convicts to imprisonment in the penitentiary as is now provided by law; *provided*, that no person who has been convicted and sentenced on a charge of murder, manslaughter, rape, attempt to commit

rape, or arson, shall be assigned under this Act; *Provided*, that this Act shall not apply to the counties of Jackson, Swain, Macon, Cherokee, Clay and Graham.

SEC. 5. That in addition to the convicts mentioned in section one of this Act, the Board of Directors of the penitentiary is authorized and directed to furnish to the authorities of any county within the State, convicts not exceeding twenty-five in number during any one year for the purpose of working the public roads in said county. The said convicts shall be at all times under the supervision and control as to their government and discipline of the penitentiary board as in case of hiring convicts to railroad companies. Any county applying for convicts under this Act shall erect suitable stockades for their safe keeping and protection, and shall pay the expense of their transportation from and to the penitentiary.

SEC. 6. That the Board of County Commissioners of the several counties in the State taking advantage of this Act shall levy a special tax annually as other taxes are levied for the purpose of paying the expenses of said convicts, building stockades, etc., and the expenses shall be paid by the counties taking advantage of this Act.

Under this law the working of convicts upon the public roads is being tried in some of the counties, and it is claimed with success and satisfaction to the counties concerned. Some claim that this system of working convicts on county roads will prove so expensive on account of the cost of guarding, directing and housing convicts as not to commend itself to the public. The system is new in this State and should be given a fair trial before any hasty judgment is given in regard to it, because there are so many people in the State who claim that this is the very best way to utilize the largest part of our convict labor.

In reference to the employment of convict labor by the State in forwarding works of internal improvement, as building railroads, etc., Capt. E. R. Stamps, President of the Board of Directors of the Penitentiary, in his communication to the Bureau says that this manner of using convicts by the State, "instead of injuring the rewards of free labor, has promoted it," and that besides the "number of men employed as overseers, guards, etc., numerous towns and villages have been built up, and industries inaugurated along these railroads by which it is estimated that 20,000 inhabitants of the State are supported." Any one who will travel along the lines of the Western North Carolina Railroad and the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad, and other roads that have been built by convict labor, will be convinced that there is considerable force in what Capt. Stamps says. Labor both skilled and unskilled has

received great benefit from the work accomplished by the convicts on the railroads, because it has opened up work to great numbers that did not have it before, independent of the employment which the railroads themselves give to labor. It may be said that these railroads would have been constructed any how without the use of convict labor. Perhaps this is so, and perhaps it would have been a long time before they would have been built. Usually railroads have to be induced to build. The progressive people of the State appreciate this fact, and the towns and counties where the most progress has been made (and where the working people get the best wages,) have been willing to vote hundreds of thousands of dollars to secure railroad communication. The question therefore presents itself, can the convict labor of the State be used with advantage in forwarding the highest material interests of the State by securing works of internal improvement, such as railroads, etc. It is an interesting question, and one in which the laboring people are as much interested in, or perhaps more interested, than any other class. Their attention is respectfully called to the subject. There are many thoughts connected with it that do not lie upon the surface, and which will be interesting to think about.

The policy of giving away convict labor to individuals or corporations has met with very general condemnation, and with reason, because there is considerable demand for the labor of the convicts, and compensation can be got for it, either in money or in a *bona fide* interest in the work performed. As that can be done it would seem that there can be no justification for giving the labor away, and that public sentiment in regard to the matter is entirely correct.

The investigation of the convict labor question by the Bureau has been an interesting one. It is believed that the experience and thoughts which have been collected and which are embraced in this chapter will give a just and fair presentation of the question in all its phases, and be the means of disseminating a comprehensive idea of the whole matter.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letters have been received by the Bureau upon the subject of convict labor and the best methods of utilizing it, from mechanics, manufacturers, and others in North Carolina:

NORTH CAROLINA LETTERS.

[1. From Capt. E. R. STAMPS, President Board of Directors N. C. Penitentiary.]

RALEIGH, N. C., November 4, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In reply to your circular letter I would say, that it being admitted "that having the convicts on hand they must be worked in some way," it must also be conceded that their work must conflict, to some extent at least, with that of free labor. A man cannot raise his hand and put it down again for any useful purpose without doing something that might have furnished remunerative work to some one else. But admitting this much, let us see how convict labor has effected free labor in North Carolina.

1. When we consider that there are in this State 200,000 men earning their support by their own personal labor, and not more than 1,000 convicts (excluding decrepid, old, young, etc.), does it seem possible that *great* damage can be done? In other words, need the free men fear what can be done in the way of competition by *one-half of one per cent.* of their number.

2. I assert it as a fact that the labor of the convicts in North Carolina, instead of injuring the rewards of free labor, has promoted it. Besides sustaining the cost of the punishment of crime (always a burden and one of the most costly in the administration of any State), the building of the penitentiary, the Governor's house, the Supreme Court building, extensive improvements in the eastern swamps, etc., the labor of the convicts have added to the taxable wealth of the State in the increased values brought about by railroads, etc., approximating $8,000,000. I make these figures by careful comparison of the Auditor's reports for the years 1875 and 1886, in certain counties especially affected by convict labor. By the use of convict labor, too, a large number of men were employed as overseers, guards, etc.; numerous towns and villages have been built up and industries inaugurated, by which I estimate 20,000 inhabitants of this State are supported. In the meantime the State has paid out for penitentiary purposes, all told, about $1,800,000 since its first establishment.

In regard to the best use of the convict, if we look only at the expense and what can be made by the State by his labor, undoubtedly the contract system is the best; but if a broader view is given, and benefit to the convict is considered, there can be no question as to the adoption of the "State account" system.

[2. From C. A. HEGE, Proprietor Salem Iron Works.]

SALEM, N. C., July 27, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In answer to your circular just received, regarding the best method of using convict labor, will say, that we believe the system of having the convicts hired out to work on the railroads, and to improve the country roads, is about as good use as they can be put to, and do not think it will work at all detrimental to the better class of laborers.

There is one thing in which we think our State of North Carolina is rather behind some of the other States, and that is in public roads, as there are certainly but very few good public roads in North Carolina; and we think it would be a good idea to put the convicts out to work the public roads, dividing them out to different counties, and let them remain in that county until the roads are in good condition. I believe this would be more beneficial than to hire them out to the different railroad companies, and we would certainly be willing to use our influence in this direction.

[3. From Hon. JOHN NICHOLS, Congressman from Fourth District N. C.]

RALEIGH, N. C., September 5, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

After a careful perusal of your circular, I cannot, in all respects, favor either system you mention. The "State account" plan, however, is, in my opinion, least objectionable.

The evil is in our present *law* system. There are too many convicts sent to the penitentiary. For all petty offences, such as do not subject the offender to imprisonment for more than four or five years, the convict should not be sent to the penitentiary, but should be sentenced to work on the public roads in the county in which he is tried. The County Commissioners should be required to take charge of all such offenders, provide for their care—have a superintendent or a commissioner of roads, and work the public roads leading from the county court-house. The sentence should be a certain period for the offence, and then the prisoner should work out the cost at so much per day.

This would not conflict with the honest labor of the country; on the contrary, it would relieve it. As it now is, every citizen of proper age is required by law to work on the public roads, I believe, six days in every year. The working of convicts would, to a great extent, relieve them of this labor.

The people of the county pay the court expenses, and while the labor of the convicts would not give a money return, it would relieve labor and give the public good roads.

It may be urged that this system would increase the county expenses. True; but it would reduce the taxes for the support of the penitentiary. Besides, few would object to a slight increase in taxes for the benefit of good roads.

A question might arise as to the roads to be worked first. I would say, work those first leading direct from the court-house town. Every citizen is presumed to have business at the county seat, and would enjoy such portions of the road that might be worked.

This system would not leave in the penitentiary more than about one-third of the present number—all long-term prisoners. They could be taught some industry that would be profitable to the State, and work on State account.

The building of iron bridges to be sold to the counties would not be a bad industry. An iron mine might be secured, foundries established, and bridges might be made and sold at cost. Many of the counties would purchase such bridges for important points, and with substantial bridges and good roads the value of real estate would be enhanced.

These are my views in brief. I could elaborate on this subject, but presume you merely want a general idea.

The first and most important thing to be done is to amend our criminal law.

[4. From W. E. HENDERSON, Esq., Salisbury, N. C.]

SALISBURY, N. C., September 6, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

After giving the subject of convict labor my best attention and consideration, I will endeavor to give my views on this important question. I am opposed to the present method of utilizing convict labor, as it is injurious to both the State and the convict. I am strictly and uncompromisingly opposed to the hiring out of the prisoners to corporations or individuals. Both of these plans come in direct contact or competition with *free labor;* besides, it is demoralizing to the general condition of our State. If the State is to have a penitentiary or prison, let it be on the reformatory order, and let there be mechanics and teachers to instruct the inmates in useful trades. Let the convicts for petty thefts and fighting work the public roads of their respective counties and thus relieve the poor tenants who work without remuneration. The roads are required to be worked three times a year, consuming the time of the poor farmers who are unable to spare it, and the result is, our public roads are disgraceful; they are so poorly worked that the farmers can hardly get their produce to market. Let there be a law enacted that no prisoner be sent to the State prison for less than three years, and each county care for her own prisoners, guilty of light offences. As the majority of these convicts are negroes whose ages average 18 years, and whose crimes are small, hence the prime cause of these thefts is ignorance. The parents are unable to educate them or bring them up to useful trades; consequently, idleness and ignorance prompt them to steal, and to worse crimes. This is not only true of the negro, but of any race that grows up in ignorance. What is the remedy? Let those convicted of very grave offences be sent to State prison for a term of not less than three years, and while there let him be taught some trade; then when the term expires he will go out a wiser and better man, no doubt—able to engage in work that will afford him a decent living—and he will be beneficial to his community and State in that he is a useful citizen. Does the present prison system improve the convict or lessen crime? By no means. When the convict is released, as a rule, he will stop in the first large town or village on his way from Raleigh, and feeling his demoralized condition, having been whipped and driven by hard task-masters devoid of consciences, his sense of shame, with every ves-

tige of manly pride and good inclinations gone, he goes on reckless and desperate; his "last state is worse than the first;" he has little dread of imprisonment, and is too hardened to feel the effects of punishment.

Again, the present convict labor system is so damaging to the farming interests, which, above all others, should be protected. We have thousands of farmers who leave our State because they can't get a living price for their produce. When we discourage and drive away the bread-producers of our State, all feel the bad effects. As to hiring the convicts to railroad corporations, individuals and to drain swamp lands, his labor comes in direct contact with the wage-workers. As we have more of this class than any other, *the State should protect them.* The average price of labor in Western North Carolina is not more than sixty cents per day. Out of this pitiful sum the laborer must feed himself and family, pay house-rent, taxes and doctor bill—or starve or steal. Can we hope for better things while this state of affairs exists? Let all goods made in prison be marked "Prison Made," and thus prevent the contact with free labor. If the foregoing is followed, I feel that the State will be benefitted, the prisoner and the community in which he resides also.

I hope, sir, that your efficient services as Commissioner of Labor will impress upon those in authority the extreme need of action on this important subject, which has at stake the peace of home and the prosperity of the OLD NORTH STATE.

[5. From J. J. HOPKINS, Esq., Wilmington, N. C.]

WILMINGTON, N. C., July 25th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

I am of the opinion that convict labor in either way of the present system is disadvantageous and detrimental to honest labor wherever it is practiced. Certainly, if the demand for labor is such as to justify the State to farm out its convicts, the demand might be supplied with honest labor. So with the other plans you mention in your circular. Now I would think the State might find a better and more profitable and satisfactory way to dispose of its convicts: for instance, there is in this State large bodies of its most fertile lands uncultivated, which by canals and proper drainage might be utilized by our own people, not mentioning the capitalist, the immigration it would produce, placing on the market fine lands which would find ready buyers, enrich the State Treasury and keeping the convicts at work where honest labor might not find an opening or opportunity to perform for ages yet to come. Under the present financial system of our country and State, these are my views upon the subject.

[6. From J. C. MARCOM, Esq., Merchant, Raleigh, N. C.]

RALEIGH, N. C., August 24th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

It has been suggested that the convict labor of the State can be economically and profitably utilized in working the public roads of the State. To me it seems that but little thought and investigation is needed to convince any one that this

plan would be the most expensive and unwise that could be adopted, and the only apology I have to make for such wild and unbusiness-like a proposition is that those who entertain it have never given the subject any thought or investigation.

Suppose we take 100 convicts and put them on the public roads of Wake; let us see what it will cost. We will divide them into four squads. Now, for each squad we have got to have quarters in the shape of stockades, that is four stockades for the county and camp equipages in the shape of cooking utensils, etc., for each of the four squads, an overseer for each and at least four guards for each, one two-horse wagon and team and teamster for each squad, and one physician, perhaps two for the county, and the additional cost of feeding will be at least one-third more.

I understand that there are about 1,400 convicts in the penitentiary; scatter these 1,400 in fourteen counties and see what you have: Fifty-six stockades, fifty-six overseers, 224 guards, 56 wagons, 120 mules, 56 teamsters and at least 14 physicians, and all this for 1,400 prisoners.

The State had better furnish palaces with carpeted floors and spring-bottom chairs, for them to while away their time when awake, and patent spring mattresses and downy beds for them to sleep on, than to embark in the road enterprise.

I think building Railroads, (if you can get pay for it) is the best disposition that can be made of them, and the next best is working farms, as is now being done at the Oaks and on the Bledsoe place. It strikes me that they come in conflict with free labor less in these two capacities than any other I know of.

[7. From Proprietor Winston Agricultural Works, Manufacturers.]

WINSTON, N. C., July 26th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In reply to the foregoing inquiry concerning the best system for the State to adopt in dealing with its convicts, our opinion is that the old whipping-post system is the best punishment after all in dealing with petty criminal cases and the present system of imprisonment for such offences is altogether wrong. There is a certain class of criminal persons who dread the whipping-post far more than a short term of imprisonment, and on these the lash has the most beneficial effect. For some, the well-fed and well-clothed condition of our prisoners, together with comfortable quarters during cold weather, seem to have an attraction rather than a repulsion, and consequently to thus provide for them instead of making them provide for themselves, is like offering a premium to evil doers to break the laws of the land in order to be thus well cared for by the State.

In regard to the present imprisonment system, however, it is generally conceded that since the State is put to the expense of their care and support, they should be made to do something which would relieve the State of much of this expense, and employment in one way or another, instead of placid idleness, should be enforced. The method of employment is a secondary consideration, and although it may seemingly conflict with free labor, it actually does not affect it, except in the imagination of those who have certain political and social ends in view.

[8. From F. A. HATCH, Esq., Machinist.]

RALEIGH, N. C., July 28th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

The questions propounded by you, I must confess, are knotty questions to me, and I must say that they would be hard to unravel by a smarter man than I am.

To avoid placing convict labor in competition with free labor without injury to the State or the convict, is a solution of the problem desired. If railroad corporations, farmers or contractors, may hire convicts to do their work, why may not counties do the same for the improvement of their roads; I am sure that they need a great deal of work. I will say here, that I have traveled in at least seven-eighths of the counties of our State and am compelled, with shame, to admit that the public roads of North Carolina, taken as a whole, would make a very unfavorable impression on the mind of one who has traveled in almost any other Atlantic State.

I am inclined to the opinion that the State prison authorities should be empowered to hire the convicts, viz.: able bodied ones to railroad corporations for grading new roads, but not for any work on roads in the way of repairs. Grading of roads being rather the most laborious work in the construction of the road and less desired by laborers generally, provided other employment equally as profitable can be obtained. The State should not be allowed to hire her convicts so low as to monopolize any work, thereby preventing free labor being employed on the same work. You will remember that the convict is only expected to feed and clothe one, while perhaps the great body of free laborers have others depending on them for subsistance. I think it desirable and politic that in every charter for a railroad, a clause should be inserted requiring the company to employ a certain number of convicts at stipulated wages, the State being responsible for food, clothing and medical attention.

The State should not use convict labor in the construction of public buildings except in brick making, and I am not sure but that much is an imposition on free labor. So long as a man has not been convicted of crime, the law supposes him to be innocent, and he should not be placed on equal footing with the convict, but should have every advantage accorded to him. The working of convicts at less wages than is necessary to support a free man and perhaps a family, has a tendency to make more convicts. We will suppose that A. B. has a family to support; he wants work, but owing to the low prices for which convict labor can be procured, he is unable to support his family; he does not wish them to suffer; he becomes reckless and steals a chicken, a hog or a little corn; he is convicted and placed in stripes; should not the State be held accountable for making a criminal of him? I think so. No doubt there are many such cases in our own penitentiary.

I do not know that I have answered your questions, but I have, in a brief and unconnected manner, expressed my views. My opinions are founded on facts.

[9. From J. H. PRINCE, Esq., Merchant, Goldsboro, N. C.]

GOLDSBORO, N. C., October 27, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

After asking you to excuse the long delay in answering your letter, will beg leave to say, that the best system for all parties interested in regard to convict labor is a difficult one to solve. I notice that you refer to three parties—the convict, the State, and the free laborer. Either one of these parties likely can find equal objections to the four systems mentioned in your letter; and perhaps as many objections to any other system that could be named. I think that all convicts should be put at some labor, to preserve their physical and muscular powers; otherwise close confinement would inflict double punishment. It would be best, no doubt, for the convict and for the State, to work them so that they would become skilled in some trade, and where lessons of morality could be best impressed upon them, so that after they should be sent from the house of correction for their crimes they would be better citizens, and if skilled in some trade, would be less liable to fall into crime again.

But the free laborer seems to be the party that is most dissatisfied, and from which the greatest complaint comes. They say that by letting the convicts do the labor that is being done in the country they (the free laborers) are deprived of it, and thereby forced to low wages, to poverty and to crime for support. Manufacturers who employ free labor say that wages and prices of goods are broken down by trying to compete with the prices of goods manufactured by convict labor. Now if we have found where the seat of any trouble to humanity lies, when found I believe the best way to cure it is to apply some remedy directly to the source from which the trouble comes. The systems that are now practised may be as good as we can get, but may need some regulating. If the laws regulating the system of letting out convicts were so amended as to regulate the prices paid for convicts and for convict labor, so that a price equivalent in all work done by them should be equal to the price paid for free labor for the same work; also to regulate the price of goods manufactured under either the piece price or the State account system, so that the goods so manufactured by convicts and by manufacturers employing convicts should be sold at equal price as paid for goods of same grade and quality manufactured by free labor. Also a further amendment of laws so as to regulate the application of the proceeds or price received from each convict's labor, so that one part should be applied to the expenses accruing by the State prison in feeding, clothing, guarding, etc., and that another part be applied to the public school fund of the school district in which the convict resided, and a third part be applied to the maintenance of the convict's family, or any one who was largely dependent on the convict for support; in case where there is no one directly dependent on the convict, to be divided between the prison expense and the school fund.

Another plan suggested is that the convicts be employed in keeping up the public county roads, in which there could be much and greatly needed improvement made to the public highways, and which would put the convict labor less in competition with free labor. I will not have space now to mention the reasons sustaining the thought set forth above, but hoping that they may assist you in analyzing the great subject and task which you have undertaken, and that your

mind may be inspired to a proper conception of the troubles in regard to this question and a plan to remedy and relieve the same.

[10. From C. B. EDWARDS, Esq., Edwards & Broughton, Printers and Binders.]

RALEIGH, N. C., July 26th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

Your circular asking my views on the question of convict labor received.

I do not believe that convict labor should come in conflict with the labor of the masses in the least, especially in the mechanical branches thereof.

I believe that the system of conducting State farms is the most preferable, as in this way there is less conflict than in any other way that I am aware of.

I look upon the penitentiary as a necessary evil, and should be limited to those criminals only who are confined for life or long terms. Unless the law is modified and crime graded so as to lessen the number of offences which are punishable with confinement in the penitentiary, the number of prisoners will be so great in the near future as to be a great burden on the tax-payer.

A great many of the crimes which are now punished with confinement in the penitentiary should be disposed of in the old-fashioned way—speedy punishment and without cost to the people.

Short-term criminals should be utilized by the counties in constructing turnpike roads, as our needs in this respect are greater than in any other.

[11. From D. S. WALLACE, Esq., Mt. Holly, N. C.]

MT. HOLLY, N. C., August 22d, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

Having consulted many of my countrymen in regard to the problem of convict labor, all agree they should be worked somewhere, and all agree they should be withdrawn from competition with honest, responsible laborers of our State. The State is able to encourage and pay honest laborers on its farms; railroad companies and corporations are able to pay for their labor and should do it. It is not right for this State, or any State, to gather up their criminals and drive honest citizens and their families from the fields of honorable toil, and thus deprive them of the means of support and the comforts of life—or worse still, force them to work for such pitiful sums as to cause them to eke out a miserable existence. The State in such cases is the cause of pauperizing many of its citizens and paving the way for more criminals to displace honest labor. Many are of the opinion that the term for petty larceny should be reduced, and that many of the counties of the State could work their convicts on public roads; and if there should be some counties that could not advantageously work their convicts on their roads, they could transfer them to counties that could work them. Of all the propositions in your circular the one for ditching swamp lands is the only one that meets with approval. But while we are battling with convict labor, let us look for the cause of such vast numbers of convicts. Many of the causes may be attributed to unjust and class legislation. We have a homestead law in our State claiming to be

for the benefit of the poor man, which really is his worst enemy. This homestead law simply says to the poor man, through the merchant you can get no credit unless you are worth fifteen hundred or two thousand dollars. This homestead law then necessitates a statute by which the mass of the people may obtain credit. The crop lien law, the real estate and chattel mortgage acts come to the relief of the people, and the merchant says we can trust you now; you can make us safe; give us a lawful mortgage and you can get anything you want. Well, the papers are drawn up and signed in the presence of witnesses, registration fee and other incidental expenses charged up, and the bill is made at a loss to the purchaser of from 25 to 50 per cent., and the merchant claims he is the best friend the poor fellow has, after he has fleeced him;—he helped him in time of need. What the people—or a great majority of them—want is this homestead law repealed, and set all men on an equal footing, so far as the law is concerned; let every man be responsible for his obligations, without the trouble and expense of making mortgages, and when this is done there will be fewer convicts in our State and county prisons.

[12. From Hon. JAMES H. POU, State Senator from Johnston County.]

SMITHFIELD, N. C., July 23, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In my opinion, the great trouble in this State is, that we have too many prisoners in our penitentiary. I think that many offences now punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary should be put within the jurisdiction of Magistrates, with the authority given to the Magistrates to require the offender to work out fine, imprisonment and costs upon the public roads. But this is not answering your question. You ask my opinion as to the best of the four methods of employing our convict population, to which I unhesitatingly answer that I prefer that which you designate as the contract system, but I would insist that such contracts should only be for the common labor upon railroad work, and that the State should require full price for all work done by the convicts. My reasons for preferring that system are, that I believe that the convicts are less in conflict with honest labor then than in almost any other employment. The grading upon railroads is very heavy work. The railroads let and sub-let to contractors until the profits are absorbed by middle men and the laborers get but poor wages. Besides, the prisoners laboring upon such work are required to live in very uncomfortable houses. For these and other reasons, comparatively few persons are willing to work on a railroad. I have noticed that a very large proportion of the work on the Midland North Carolina Railroad and the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad (Short Cut) was done by laborers from a distance, laborers here preferring to work on a farm at $10 per month to working on the railroad at $26. The State ought to be careful not to allow any convicts to be used in such skilled work as the building of the superstructure or in keeping the same or the road-bed in order after being built. The State ought to require full value for all convicts furnished to corporations because anything less is injustice to the whole people. I think that the State could very profitably establish a number of convict farms, not upon rented land, but upon the fertile State lands in the East. There the

able-bodied ones could be employed in constructing roads and canals, and in clearing land; the weaker ones and the women in cultivating the open land; and such as could not be employed in such work might be employed as I said, in doing for full price the common work on railroads. Let us now do the best we can with the present system, but insist that the next Legislature change our laws so as to work a reduction of our convict force at least one half. If corporal punishment cannot be inflicted, let the counties be required to work their petty offenders upon their roads and water courses. The penitentiary system works oppression alike upon the laborers and upon the tax-payers.

[13. From JOHN R. RAY, Esq., Printer, Raleigh.]

RALEIGH, N. C., July 25, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In answer to your inquiry in reference to the employment of convict labor, I would say—

First. I favor an entire abolition of the penitentiary system and a return to corporal punishment for certain offences. Extend the jurisdiction of the Magistrates, and change the whole criminal code. Punish certain crimes by whipping or by publicly parading the criminal through the streets of the county town as an offender, the establishment of chain-gangs to be worked *only* on the public roads and the improvement of all public property other than that belonging to incorporated cities and towns. I would also abolish capital punishment, and for the higher crimes—say all offences which are now punishable by three years or more in the penitentiary—institute solitary confinement in the county jails on bread and water.

Second. An inter-State arrangement by which the convicts of each State could be employed in the production of articles and commodities *for the use of the charitable and penal institutions of the States alone.* For instance, let the convicts of North Carolina, and as many other States as necessary which are advantageously located, produce as much cotton as is necessary for the use of all the penitentiaries, poor-houses and asylums in the United States, let Minnesota and Kansas raise the wheat, Michigan and others the corn, New Hampshire make all the leather, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut work up the leather into shoes and the cotton into cotton-goods, Ohio furnish the woolens, and so on, and so on. This would be truly a coöperative plan, and by it all the public institutions would be furnished with everything necessary at a minimum cost, all the convicts would be employed advantageously to themselves and not in competition with free labor on any work, as is now the case. This would also prevent greedy corporations and contractors from enriching themselves at the expense of the State and to the great detriment of a large class of its most useful citizens, obtaining for almost nothing the labor of those whose ignorance and proverty have driven them to crime.

Third. Let all convicts sentenced for a term of five years or under be placed in charge of the county authorities to be kept, under their direction, constantly employed in improving the highways and water-ways of the several counties in which they are convicted; for all convicts sentenced for more than five years, to

be kept in solitary confinement or in the production of articles for the use of convicts *exclusively*.

Fourth. Let the States establish a penal colony and banish all long-term convicts, and give the Magistrates jurisdiction over minor offences, to be punished as suggested in the first paragraph of this paper.

I am fully aware that a very large class whose personal interest is to think otherwise, and another class who seldom think for themselves at all, will unhesitatingly pronounce these suggestions Utopian and impractical, but I am equally fully convinced that each plan suggested is not only practical, but would be vastly better for the wage-earners than any system now in operation. Our present systems, not only in North Carolina, but all the other States as well, are not only unjust to the tax-payers and the wage-workers, but to the *prisoners themselves*, for the reason that what is punishment for one class of men may be reward for another; that is to say, the tramp who has spent most of his life in box-cars, cold and hungry, is not punished by placing him in prison where he has plenty to eat and to wear and comfortable quarters, but in these same quarters the delicate dude would receive rather more than his share of punishment. So our Judges should be given broader discretionary powers, so they could "make the punishment fit the crime." This comparison is not made because I love the dude more or the tramp less, but because I favor equal and absolute justice to all men.

Many other improvements might be suggested, but these only occur to my mind at the present time.

[14. From Hon. C. P. LOCKEY, State Senator from New Hanover County.]

WILMINGTON, July 25th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

My opinion is, that in justice to free and honest labor, the convicts should be so worked as not to come in conflict with honest labor. I believe that if they were not farmed out to railroads that the railroads would hire free labor at living wages to do the work which the convicts now do. I think it is proper and right to use convicts in canaling State lands where it would do good to the public, provided such work does not impair the health of the convicts; it is also proper, I think, to use convicts in particular localities in making turnpikes and laying out and making new public roads wherever needed; and finally, I am decidedly of the opinion that the interest of honest labor and the whole State would be promoted by using the convicts in working the public dirt roads of the State, and I cannot see how the interest of the convicts can be jeopardized by such use of them.

[15. From J. S. DURHAM, Esq., Merchant, Durham.]

DURHAM, N. C., July, 23d, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In reply to your circular, would say, that I am opposed to any system of hiring or leasing convicts that would in anyway compete with free labor, and cannot see from the four systems given, but what they would be brought in competition with free labor to some extent. I know of no better way than for each county to work

her convicts on public roads and other work as would relieve the people of that burden. This convict question is rather hard to decide as to what is best to be done with them.

[16. From LOCAL ASSEMBLY, No. 9229, Knights of Labor.]

WORTHVILLE, N. C., August 30th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

I submitted this question to Local Assembly, No. 9229 K. of L., when they passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That we believe it would be to the best interests of the State to gradually do away with the penitentiary and adopt the whipping-post, pillory and stocks.

I shall be glad at any time to give you all the information I possibly can.

[SEAL.] R. H. SHAW, Recording Secretary.

[17. From J. H. ALFORD, Esq., Printer, Raleigh, N. C.]

RALEIGH, N. C., Sept. 23d, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

I am of the opinion that what is termed "The State Account System" is preferable to the other systems. The State, with the manufactures of her convicts, takes her chances in the markets just as any individual or firm is compelled to do. And it seems to me that no reasonable objection could be urged against this system, so far as fear of competition on the part of the laborer or employer of labor is concerned.

All must agree that the convict *must* be employed, and the State can provide for his employment in the manner suggested, when she shall establish manufactures in her prison.

But, for the *present*, I can't see that laborers (i. e., *skilled* laborers) should be apprehensive of any harm that may accrue to them from the *trained* convicts. I think the convicts are *now* engaged at the very best system of development for the State in working on the railroads: to build all the railroads needed by our people will be probably the work of many years to come. But to me it seems manifestly unjust for the State to *give* the labor of her convicts to any private corporation. A reasonable compensation should be demanded for said labor, as a matter of simple justice.

I beg to express the opinion that in the punishment of people guilty of larceny, the State should provide to teach such offenders that it is cheaper to *work* for an article than to *steal* it. In all such cases (if at all practical) the penalty inflicted should include the value of the thing stolen, and the time lost by the rightful owner in attendance at court, &c., in order to the conviction of the offender, and let the State pay to said owner what he lost (in the manner before mentioned), out of the labor of the wrong-doer. This is nothing but simple justice, and the lesson thus sought to be taught to thieves would be salutary and effective. I, of course, can see difficulties in the way of establishment of such a procedure to-

wards criminals, but experience will teach law-makers how to remove such difficulties. At least, I think your Bureau might press the matter to the attention of State officers and they to the legislature, in order to secure the needed reform.

[18. B. W. SPIVEY, Esq., Farmer, Moore county.]

MOORE COUNTY, N. C., December 5th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

I have delayed answering your request for a long time in order that I might get the views of the community in which I live on this labor question. I find as a general opinion of the people, that they are opposed to the convicts working on building of railroads; they propose that the convicts be worked on county public roads or employed in draining swamp lands. Now, my opinion is, that all the convicts should be worked inside the penitentiary if the hands can be furnished with the labor and let them be entirely under the control of the State authorities; if this cannot be done, let the convicts be let out under the lease system. It seems to me that the penitentiary officials could furnish you with some valuable information from their experience as to which of the different systems works the best.

[19. From HOPE ASSEMBLY, K. of L., Haw River.]

HAW RIVER, N. C., July 30th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

We respectfully refer you to section 12 in the Knights of Labor platform, which reads: "To prohibit the hiring out of convict labor."

JAMES D. ALBRIGHT, Recording Secretary.

[20. From GEO. E. NISSEN & CO., Wagon Manufacturers.]

SALEM, N. C., July 28th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

We do not know anything about the convict labor of our State, but will be glad to give an idea of what the convicts of other States have done for one business in North Carolina. A large per cent. of the wagons made are by convicts. Taking the largest one at Nashville, Tennessee, who work nearly, if not all convicts; they get them for about their board, and as labor is the largest item in a wagon, they can make, ship all through the South, sell at a price that is making them immensely rich and still under the *cost* of a good wagon at our factories. No doubt the wagons used by the State are made by convicts of others. We only name this to see if it will ruin wagon making, as it has done. Will not the convict ruin any branch of manufacturing that he can do and is worked on in competition with free labor. We think they should be worked on the public roads of the State; they certainly could not be worked on anything of more importance, and draining swamp lands belonging to the State.

[21. From GEO. C. WALSH, Esq., Wilmington, N. C.]

WILMINGTON, N. C., August 12th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In compliance with your request, I will say in the first place, that I am opposed to convict labor in every shape and form where it comes in contact with free labor. The contract system entered into by State or National government, in letting out convicts, or in giving out contracts for any public improvement, is decidedly wrong. In the first place, the contractor obtains his labor at a low figure, (even if to the highest bidder,) consequently he can manufacture and sell his goods cheaper than a manufacturer who employs free labor, and in order to compete with prices of convict made goods, he is necessarily compelled to reduce his employees wages. In this way convict-made goods injures free labor and causes them to work for a mere pittance or starve. The lease system is wrong, because convicts let out in this way are not properly cared for and are often ill-treated and die from exposure, thus cheating the State of the small amount it receives for each convict.

The "piece price system" is also a bad plan. The State is often defrauded by an incorrect return of the number of pieces manufactured, and is invariably the loser. This system is also a hardship on free labor.

Convicts should be used only in repairing roads and public highways. Where this is not practicable the State should have a farm and work all of its convicts upon it, selling the products, the proceeds of which to be used entirely in the maintenance of convicts.

Convicts should never be employed in building railroads, because it deprives free labor of work that it should have.

Convict labor employed in anyway except by the State in the improvement of public roads and highways, is in direct conflict with free labor; convicts should be self-sustaining, but the products of their labor should never be placed upon the market; convicts can produce everything they need within the prison grounds.

[22. From BLUFF ASSEMBLY, K. of L., Cumberland County, N. C.]

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

The communication sent to me has been placed before the Assembly and duly considered. The views of the Assembly on convict labor is, that they don't believe there is any system of working the convicts without competing with free labor, only by working them on the public roads, and it is the unanimous opinion of the Assembly that they should be so worked or kept in the penitentiary.

[Seal.] JOSEPH VAUGHAN, Recording Secretary.

By order of Assembly:

W. F. HOLMES, M. W.

[23. From A. L. MENDENHALL, Esq.]

RANDLEMAN, N. C., September 24, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In regard to the best plan for utilizing the convict labor, I am at a loss to know what to say. In the first place, I do not approve of one plan which has been legalized by legislative enactment. That is this: Some corporations or syndicates have been authorized to give bonds to the State at, I believe, $125 per year, the State boarding, clothing, paying doctor bills and guarding them, and when the roads have been completed these bonds have been returned to these companies. Now if this statement be true, and I think it is, this is unfair, because it is making railroad companies rich at the expense of the State, and the tax-payers must pay the money. In the next place, I have good authority for saying that a number of men have boarded their families from the State's commissary, which we all know is unfair. I think some of them are now paying board for their wives and are still boarding their children at the expense of the State. I do not think there is any law in our State that will justify this course. The class to which I have reference is the supervisors of convict camps. Where the convicts can be employed by the State in draining swamp lands, I am satisfied that the State is benefitted and her lands improved, and hence our State is worth more. This does not depreciate free labor very much; but where the State furnishes this labor at a nominal price for grading railroads it then comes in direct conflict with free labor and lowers the price. Where the State can hire the convicts to individuals or companies, making these individuals and companies entirely responsible for all costs, then the State is benefitted to the amount she receives for this labor.

I have long been of the opinion that we ought to work our convicts on public roads, though many men object on account of the cost of guarding them—yet we do guard them for railroad companies. There is no improvement more needed in our State than improvement on our public roads, and this would very much enhance the value of our lands. We all make mistakes; let us be guided by the lamp of experience, and discuss this matter in the right spirit, asking God to aid us in this matter, and we can improve in this, just as we have in other State issues. If what I have said is worth anything, consider it; if not, throw it in the waste-basket.

[24. From COLEMAN TWINING, Esq., Machinist, Wilmington.]

WILMINGTON, N. C., July 23, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In answering your circular as to the best system to adopt in dealing with our convicts, it will be necessary for me to enter into a brief explanation. First, we have two races in our State who are nearly equally divided as to numbers, and while we find the race prejudice prevalent throughout the white population, and while it does not stop and rest with the common citizen, but goes further, and, I am sorry to say, extends to and enters our courts of justice, so-called. Therefore, if a man of color is brought before a court, it is no difficult matter to prove him guilty. The jury is composed of all white men—perhaps one or two colored;

they all say guilty; the Judge sentences the prisoner to from three to ten years in the State penitentiary, when, had it been a white man, if found guilty at all, would have been sent to the county work-house or jail for sixty or ninety days.

Now in hiring out convicts, who are human beings and are in the hands of the law—in our hands—they are hired to some railroad or canal contractor, who are both, in nine cases out of ten, inhuman and void of conscience. Now to give action to this feeling of prejudice spoken of, the unfortunate man is put at work in the very worst places that are on the work. Why? Because he is a convict, and if he dies it is a small loss, and we can make him work there, while we cannot get free men to do the same kind of labor for say six times as much as the convict costs.

Now we presume that justice is founded upon humanity, and it is Godly to be merciful. The above showing makes it the very opposite. Law and justice say, if you kill a human being you must be hung, but if you or we in cold blood put those unfortunate men into dangerous or sickly places, and some are killed, others sicken and die, are not we, the people of the boasted commonwealth of North Carolina, guilty of murder, and responsible before God's judgment? Oh, the inhumanity of man to man! And that in the face of a people who claim to have reached the zenith of civilization!

Now what will we do with the convicts? If the authorities would buy a farm and work the farm with the convicts, it would feed all of them, and would be good healthy exercise for the convicts; the salaries to be paid to those who have the convicts in charge by the State. Let each county have a jail and work-house and, instead of sending a man to the penitentiary for three or ten years who perhaps did not steal five dollars' worth—probably two or three chickens—send him to the county work-house for sixty or ninety days, or more, as to the magnitude of the crime. Then let each county use those prisoners for the purpose of building and repairing county roads. Then our expenses would be less by about one-half than under the present system, would have fewer convicts by three-fourths, and we would have county roads which we could travel over at all seasons of the year, which would be a great benefit to each and every county of the State; then the labor of the convict would not come in competition with honest labor.

These are a few of my reasons for opposing the hiring out of convicts, with a suggestion as to what would be best to do with them.

[25. From S. M. HATCH, Esq., Asheville.]

ASHEVILLE, N. C., August 8th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In answer to your request, will say it is generally believed and desired of the majority of the laboring classes, and many property holders, that the convict labor ought to be kept in the penitentiary. Let the subjects learn some trade by which they could make a living in case they can get home again or at liberty. I have observed in the construction of railroads through this county, where all convict labor was used and cut off free labor, that it forced a great many to get into trouble for want of work and could not obtain it, and was sent to the penitentiary,

when if they could have gotten employment, would have been at home with their families.

The people, or a good number of them, are willing to pay the taxes to support them, and to use free labor on the State lands and swamps, &c.

Will let you hear from me again when I get better posted on the subject.

[26. From W. S. ASHWORTH, Esq., Grange.]

GRANGE, N. C., August 15th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

As to the best plan to work the convict labor, I am not sure that I know what would be best to do in working the convicts. But it seems to me the contract system would be best on the part of the State; to hire the convicts out to the highest bidder and let the contractor have his own manufactory and material and pay the State for the labor, and the State taking no risk in purchases nor sales.

[27. From WM. R. JACKSON, Esq.]

DINSDALE, N. C., August 20th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

We have no convict labor in our county. I have studied some on the subject, and it is hard for me to give an answer; but I believe it would be right to keep them in the penitentiary and learn them some useful trade; but I believe the State is realizing more profit on the contract system than it would to keep them in prison.

[28. From C. C. KING, Esq., Carpenter, Durham.]

DURHAM, N. C., August 8th, 1887.]

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

The subject on which you request my opinion is a very knotty one and one that is puzzling the minds of our best statesmen, and I do not feel able to give but very little light if any on the subject. The State account system is the only one that I could approve of and it has objectionable features in that the convict is given a trade, which I think should not be done, as it would be an injury to honest mechanics. My opinion is that the best way to manage convicts would be to allow each county to keep her own convicts—that is, those sentenced for short terms, say two years and under, to work and keep up her public roads; those for longer terms than two years should be sent to State prison and there all the able-bodied ones should be used by the State in cutting canals, cleaning out rivers and creeks of the State where they can be made navigable. I also think that the State should own every railroad within her borders and these convicts could be usefully employed in keeping up these roads and in building new ones. The other convicts that I have not mentioned—such as women and boys under twenty-one and those too infirm to be sent out to hard labor—should be worked on a farm owned by the State, and the products of said farm to be used to defray the expenses of

maintaining convicts. In this way I think the convicts could be worked profitably to the State and I believe it would give general satisfaction to the people. Before I close, let me say something in regard to the treatment of convicts. It is generally the case that convicts are more hardened criminals after they have served out their sentences than they were at first. This should not be. It should be the duty of the State to try to make better citizens of them. It has been with deep regret that I have noticed of late that many very young boys are being convicted and sent to State prison; something should be done to reform them, and I think it would be well to make the State farm spoken of a reformatory institution where these boys could be made better citizens. I hope something will soon be done to settle the question of working convicts.

[29. From W. S. WALDEN, Esq., Carpenter, Henderson.

HENDERSON, N. C., July 25th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

Giving you my views as to how we should best use convict labor is not very hard for me to do. If there is anything that the public needs more than another it is good public roads, and under the present system we will never get them, and I know of nothing that is of more importance to the farmer than good roads. There are counties in this State that a good four horse team cannot draw more than twelve or fifteen hundred pounds in winter season. The people around your own city will testify to this fact. Yes, they cannot even get to the capitol of the State in wet weather without a great effort, and to the great injury of both wagon and team.

I suppose there are convicts in the State prison from every county in the State. Let the convicts from their respective counties be put to work on the public roads, cut down the hills and fill the valleys, and what they do let it be well done, and build bridges that will stand for ages. What is done to our roads now does no good at all. The roads is getting worse all the time. You often see that they have to make a new way through the woods, sometimes a half mile or more.

The next place I would suggest to work convicts, is to grade our railroads, open out our rivers, drain our swamps. In no case should they be taught any mechanical trade. It is an outrage to force our good honest mechanics to compete in price with thieves and robbers. We have all we can bear now.

The best system of the four you mention, I would say, is the lease system. But honest labor will be content with convicts grading our roads, cleaning out our rivers, swamps, &c. This will only bring easier and cleaner labor for your free labor, for when you build railroads you have to build towns and bridges. Cleaning out rivers also makes towns which will give you a better class of labor, and in consideration of cheap labor, we might reasonably suppose there will be more railroads built, more streams made navigable. So you see you have not lost anything at last, if you will only view it in its proper light.

[30. From W. H. WETMORE, Esq., Shoe Manufacturer, Raleigh.]

RALEIGH, N. C., December 15, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In answer to your circular received some time since, asking for my opinion in regard to the employment of convict labor in the manufacture of shoes, and what effect such employment has on free labor, I would say that, so long as there are a great many honest men seeking employment which they *cannot find*, it seems to me that to employ convicts in the manufacture of any kind of goods *is wrong*. It takes employment, to a certain extent, from free labor. Another objection, which is a very serious one, is in the fact that a manfacturer in employing free labor and paying a fair price for the same, *cannot* compete with the manufacturer using convict labor. I know from experience that shoes can be manufactured from five to six cents less per pair by convicts than they can with free labor.

Now, if every man desiring employment had a situation, and the supply of manufactured goods was not sufficient to meet the demand, then, I say, let the *State* use the convict in manufacturing, charging the same price for their goods as other manufacturers, and let the profits on such goods help to run the penitentiary.

Now, since we see that to employ the convict in manufacturing would be detrimental to free labor, then what shall we do with our convicts? for we cannot afford to keep them in idleness. I think this question is being answered every day by our excellent Board of Directors better than I, or any one else, can answer it. They are employing them, as we all know, in building railroads and in making other internal improvements. That is exactly where the convicts should be. Every mile of road built by these convicts makes the lands through which it passes much more valuable, and opens a new avenue for the employment of free labor in the country through which it passes. So the convict, as now employed, is increasing the wealth of the State. I do not profess to know much about such matters, but if the State could own a portion of every railroad built by convicts in the State, I cannot see why it should not be a paying investment. I believe the State is paid in bonds for the hire of convicts on railroads. If so, why not let the State hold such bonds, which in a short time would be quite an income to the State.

The employment of convicts in draining our public lands in the East, also their employment on public roads, are both good places where the convict can be worked to advantage. I do think that one of the heaviest taxes on the farmers and day laborers is in keeping up the public roads. If the convicts could be worked in this way it would certainly relieve these classes.

There is plenty for the convict to do without turning his attention to manufacturing; and then, if we look at it from a humane standpoint, it will not do to employ them in manufacturing, as they cannot stand the close confinement they are necessarily subjected to. Now to illustrate: when I worked convicts in the penitentiary we would put them to work as soon as they had eaten breakfast, work them until 12 M., then they would go to their dinner and to their cells or corridors until 1 o'clock; then back to work until the usual hour for closing work; then to supper and back in their cells. No human being could be healthy with so little out-door exercise. The consequence was that about twenty per cent. of our hands were sick all the time, especially during the long summer days.

I am sure you will be gratified to know that I have found very little trouble in teaching our native young men the art of manufacturing shoes. They learn quickly, and are soon able to earn $1 per day. I pay my men from 80 cents to $3 per day; girls and boys, 50 cents.

I trust I have answered your questions in a plain and satisfactory way.

[31. From T. M. WILLIAMS, Esq., Southport.]

SOUTHPORT, N. C., October 10th, 1887.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

My idea is, the convict labor in competition with skilled labor is detrimental to the interest of the same. I can't see that the convicts affect any labor except skilled labor. I can't see how the present system could be improved. While the number apparently is large, it is small when considered over the whole State. My idea is, that the character of convicts generally are not such as to entitle them to the trouble and expense that it would require to learn them a trade, and thus bring them into competition with honest men who have served their time to learn some useful trade.

Since you called on me for the information solicited, I have tried to talk with my neighbors on the questions you ask but have failed in every instance to get a definite answer.

[32. From E. G. SMITH, Printer, Raleigh.]

RALEIGH, N. C., January 3, 1888.

To the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

In reply to your questions as to the best method by which to dispose of convict labor, I will say:

The lease system is without doubt very wrong and unjust to free labor, and oftentimes cruel and inhumane to the prisoners themselves. What has the State built a prison called "The Pen" for? Is it to enable a few corporations and individuals to speculate on the misfortunes of their fellow men, and add an incentive to crime by increasing poverty? Was it to fill it with law-breakers and then turn them out on the farms, railroads, etc., to deprive so-called free labor of an honest living which would be made if it were not for the lease system? The honest laborer pays taxes to the State Government to keep the prisoners, and it is a great injustice to him to lease them out in competition with honest citizens who are the mainstay of our Government and the defenders of our liberties. The same objections—and more—can be made to the piece-price system; it is wrong from every standpoint of the working people. In fact, the whole four systems is an injustice to honest labor. What is the object of a prison? Is it not to *punish* people for disobeying the laws? There is little punishment, properly administered, in the four systems you mention. With plenty to eat, plenty to wear, healthful exercise and comfortable houses, where is the punishment to the man who has always been used to worse fare, and is too ignorant to appreciate the sweetness of his liberty? He is happy; "not a wave of trouble rolls across his peaceful breast;" and he is most sure to serve more than one term, because he likes it. Sometimes he brings the whole family. Do away with "The Pen" and convict labor and establish the old-fashioned whipping-post for chicken-stealing, etc., giving Magistrates final jurisdiction in such cases, and when a man is sent to the penitentiary let him serve inside the walls, as he should, *in prison.*

TABLE No. 10.—SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE PRISONS OF CERTAIN PRESENT SYSTEM IN FORCE, OTHER SYSTEMS TRIED, ARTICLES MANU-

STATE.	CITY.	Present System of working prisoners.	How long in use.	System previously tried.
Alabama.	Montgomery.	Contract.	21 years.	State farming.
Arkansas.	Little Rock.	Lease.	15 years.	State account.
California.	Folsom.	State account.	s. Jan. 1, '87	Lease and contr.
Colorado.	Canon City.	State account.	op'ng pris.	No other.
Connecticut.	Wethersfield.	Contract.	60 years.	----------
Florida.	Tallahassee.	Lease.	10 years.	----------
Illinois.	Chester.	Contract.	5 years.	None.
Illinois.	Joilet.	Contract.	15 years.	State account.
Indiana.	Jeffersonville.	Contract.	35 years.	----------
Indiana.	Michigan City.	Contract.	17 years.	----------
Iowa.	Anamosa.	Construction.	----------	None.
Iowa.	Fort Madison.	Contract.	31 years.	----------
Maine.	Thomaston.	State account.	30 years.	----------
Massachusetts.	Charleston.	State acc't & contr	----------	----------
Michigan.	Ionia.	Contr. & State ac't	10 years.	----------
Missouri.	Jefferson City.	Contract.	10 years.	Lease.
Nevada.	Carson City.	State account.	10 years.	Lease.
Nebraska.	Hyersville.	Lease and contr'ct	10 years.	----------
New Hampshire	Concord.	Contract.	30 years.	----------
New York.	Elmyra.	State account.	1 year.	Contract.
Ohio.	Columbus.	Cont. & piece price	3 years.	All contract.
Pennsylvania.	Alleghany City.	State account.	1½ years.	Congr'gate contr
Pennsylvania.	Philadelphia.	State account.	58 years.	None other.
Rhode Island.	Howard.	Contract.	30 years.	----------
South Carolina.	Columbia.	Lease and contr'ct	11 years.	None other.
Virginia.	Richmond.	Contract.	7 years.	----------
West Virginia.	Moundsville.	Contract.	9 years.	State account.
Wisconsin.	Wampum.	Contract.	10 years.	State account.

STATES OF THE UNION, THE SYSTEM OF WORKING THE CONVICTS, YEARS IN USE, FACTURED, HOURS WORKED PER DAY, &C.

Articles Manufactured in the prison.	Hours worked per day.	What System Preferred.
Work in mines and on farms.	8 to 10	Long term contract.
Mining, brick-making and farming.	10 hours.	----------
Work on public buildings, roads, &c.	10 hours.	State account, hand w'rk
Lime and brick.	10 hours.	State account.
Boots and shoes.	8 hours.	Contract.
Turpentine farms.	sun to sun	Lease best here.
Shoes, holloware, brick-making.	10 hours.	Don't know.
Shoes, cooperage, stone, marble, wire fenc'g, &c	10 hours.	Contracts stopped by law
Saddle trees, shoes, holloware, &c.	10 hours.	Long contr'cts & str'ct dis
Cooperage, chairs, hosiery, shoes, &c.	10 hours.	Don't know.
Construction of prison and prison work.	10 hours.	Present as long as needed
Farm implements, boots, shoes, &c.	10 hours.	Contract.
Carriage and harness.	10 hours.	State account.
Spring beds, shoes and harness.	9 to 10.	Contract.
Cigars, chairs, bedsteads, &c.	10 hours.	Contract.
Clothing, shoes, saddles, &c.	9 hours.	Contract.
Boots, shoes, clothing and saddles.	8 hours.	----------
Harness making, tailoring, &c.	10 hours.	State should control.
Bedsteads.	10½ hours.	Contract.
Holloware, brooms, chairs, tinware, &c.	8 hours.	Piece price plan.
Cigars, agricultural implements, harness, &c.	10 hours.	Plain simple contract.
Cocoa matting and mats and shoes.	8 hours.	----------
Weaving, chair making, cigars, shoes.	by task.	State acc't, hand work.
Wire goods, shoes, &c.	10 hours.	Contract.
Hosiery making, mining, phosphate rock, &c.	10 hours.	Contract inside prison.
Tobacco, shoes, R. R. building and county r'ds	10 hours.	Contract.
Making whips, brooms, wagons, &c.	10 hours.	Don't know.
Boots and shoes.	10 hours.	Contract.

LETTERS FROM OTHER STATES.

The following has been received by the Bureau from prison authorities of the different States of the Union:

ALABAMA.

R. H. DAWSON, President Board of Inspectors, Montgomery.—The contract system is in operation in this State, and was adopted to make the institution self-supporting. The convicts are employed in mining and farming. In the mines there are 400, and on the farms 175. They work in the mines 8 hours and on the farms 10 hours per day. The best plan to adopt in this State, in my opinion, is to let the prisoners be worked on a long-term contract with a responsible concern, where the convicts can be concentrated at one or two places, and thus be under the immediate and constant supervision of State officers, who should be empowered by law, with ample authority, to enforce a proper treatment of the convicts, and strict compliance with law, the State officers to be conscientious and efficient and experienced.

Unfortunately we have two classes of convicts—State and county—and they are scattered all over the State. This and other things will be remedied to a great extent, by new laws soon to go into effect.

Where the convict population is entirely made of negroes, it does not seem possible to get a commonwealth to assume the support of them, which proves to be too burdensome when the convicts are kept at the penitentiary. Work in the mines gives them a proficiency, more or less, at a kind of labor by which they can, and a great many do, earn a far better livelihood than before conviction (i. e., after being discharged). All convict miners are paid for extra work.

I mail you a copy of the last report of the inspectors, which discusses the questions you present.

ARKANSAS.

G. A. LEIPER, Warden, Little Rock.—The lease system is operated in this State, and has been for fifteen years. The State receives about $40,000 per annum for her convicts, and they are engaged in farming, coal-mining and brick-making, there being about 150 engaged in each. The convicts are worked 10 hours per day. Convict labor has not interfered with free labor in this State, except possibly in mining. There is plenty of work in the world for everybody, and I therefore do not think that convict labor interfered with free labor except possibly in a few local sections. There is no work which convicts can do that is self-sustaining that is not in competition with free labor. My observation and experience of fourteen years is, that the idle classes who do not work make the most noise about competition of convict labor. I consider the lease system under the immediate supervision of the State within the walls at mechanical pursuits preferable: 1st.

The convicts will be in one body where moral instruction can better be given to the whole. 2d. They will learn some useful trade. 3d. They will receive all the benefits and protection which the law or State contemplates. 4th. They will be self-sustaining. 5th. Proper discipline can be better preserved within the walls than at branch prisons.

CALIFORNIA.

JOHN M. COMB, Warden of Penitentiary at Falsom, California.—The work of the convicts at this penitentiary is entirely used by the State since January 1st, 1887. The present plan was adopted to prevent the bringing of convict labor in conflict with free labor. The convicts are employed in erecting buildings, improving grounds, roads, etc. Also in quarrying, dressing stone, gardening, farming and in occupations necessary to run the prison. The number of hours worked is eight.

As to the best method of employing convict labor I would say, that the best interest of the convict is to keep him at work at something he can complete without the aid of machinery of any kind, so that he may be able to make a living by the labor of his own hands when liberated. If the prisoners are restricted to hand labor the competition with free labor is not to be feared.

COLORADO.

C. P. HOYT, Warden, Carson City.—The convicts of the Colorado State Penitentiary are all employed in quarrying and burning lime, and during the summer season in making brick. The proceeds from the sale of the lime and brick go to the State.

The last Legislature passed a law which will go into effect in about thirty days prohibiting the leasing or contracting of convict labor, but the State may employ them in any way deemed best, on its own account. This system has prevailed here ever since Colorado has been a State, with the exception of two or three attempts at boot and shoe manufacturing by contractors which proved unprofitable and was abandoned. The present system and work does not conflict with the free labor of the State as yet, and I hear no complaints on that score. I think of nothing else of importance on this question.

CONNECTICUT.

S. E. CHAMBERLAIN, Warden, Wethersfield.—The contract system has been in operation here for 60 years. The State gets 50 cents per day for her convicts, and they are employed in making boots and shoes, there being 230 in such employment. They average about eight hours per day. I think the contract system is the best for the State to adopt.

In my opinion the "contract" is the only system that can be successfully adopted in prisons to prevent direct competition with free labor. "Piece price" or "public account" will put goods on the market made by non-tax payers, to compete with similar goods on which taxes have been paid. Prison contractors

are taxed on their capital invested, including machinery, &c. Their instructors come under the discipline of the prison as much as the officers. None can be employed without the sanction of the Warden, who for cause, can discharge the same. Next to the contract system is piece work, which is a contract system in disguise, got up in some of the States to avoid the law on the subject, with many objectionable features not found in the well regulated prison contracts.

FLORIDA.

D. LANG, Adjutant General, Tallahassee.—All convicts prior to December 31st, 1889, are leased. The leasing of convicts has been carried on for ten years, and the lease plan was adopted because the convicts could not be judiciously and economically employed in the State's prison. The contractor receives the convicts at place of conviction, and assumes all expenses of the convict, but pays the State nothing. They are employed on turpentine farms. There are about 315 employed, and they work from sun to sun. For Florida, the present plan is the best, in my opinion.

The writer has had little more than two years incidental experience as supervisor of the State's prison, but with this limited experience, he finds many objections to the contract lease system; principally the crowding together and consequent free intercourse and exchange of ideas of all classes and grades of criminals, tending thereby to reduce all to the level of the lowest and most depraved.

Florida, unfortunately, has no developed industry, other than manufacturing naval stores, in which her peculiar class of criminals, uneducated negro laborers, can be economically employed, and is not sufficiently wealthy, even were it desirable to shut them up in idleness.

The influence of convict labor upon free labor is regarded as merely a fiction of labor agitators and demagogues, intended to be used for political purposes. Why one man's labor should be more of a factor in the labor market subsequent to than before his conviction as a criminal, it is difficult to explain. It certainly cannot be claimed that his conviction as a criminal gives him immunity from labor and confers upon him the right to be supported from the proceeds of honest labor; and if he labors for his support *voluntarily* before conviction, and is *compelled* to do so afterwards, where is the harm done those *unfortunates who are not convicts (?)*.

ILLINOIS.

R. W. MCCLAUGHEY, Warden, Joliet.—The contract system is now in operation in this State, and has been since 1872, and was adopted because the State lost by the State account system heavily. The State, under the contract system, receives about 61 cents per day per convict. They are engaged in boot and shoe making, cooperage, stone, marble-cutting, harness-making, chair-making, manufacture of hosiery, making barbed-wire fence, and machine work. They work 10 hours. The present system has been attacked by labor organizations and has produced great dissatisfaction, aggravated by the preaching of politicians, who have, by exaggerated statements, inflamed the prejudices of free laborers to secure politi-

cal ends. No system has as yet, to my knowledge, been adopted which better secures the best interest of the State, the convict and free labor than the contract system as it is managed in Illinois. But the people of the State in 1886 adopted a constitutional amendment abolishing the contract system, consequently as soon as the present contracts expire we will be at sea on the convict labor question. In Illinois the State, in leasing the labor of the convict to the contractor, reserves the right to decide all questions relating to amount of labor required for a day's work, to fitness of convict for any particular kind of work, and all matters concerning health, treatment, food, clothing, instruction, government, punishment, etc., of convict are absolutely within the control of the State. The contractor furnishes material, machinery and instructors or foremen. These latter can be dismissed at any time by prison authorities if their presence or influence is deemed injurious to prisoner or detrimental to discipline. All time necessary for bathing, receiving visits from friends, etc., is taken out of the ten hours, without being made up to the contractor. In short, the State stands between the contractor and the convict to see that the latter is fairly treated in every respect, and that he is required to do only a reasonable day's work each day.

G. M. MITCHELL, Warden, Southern Illinois Penitentiary, Chester.—The contract system is carried on here and has been for five years, and is the only system ever in vogue. The State receives 55 cents per day of 10 hours for her convicts to work on boots and shoes, hollow ware and brick-making. Boots and shoes 225; hollow ware 125; brick-making 60. The influence of convict labor on free labor in this State is so small that it cannot be approximated. As to what system is best to adopt in dealing with convict labor, I am not yet decided on. Any answer that I might make to the above might prove to be very vague. We, in Illinois, are just at present starting out under a recent amendment to our Constitution, "Forbidding the contracting of convict labor." Its practical workings are looked forward to with a great deal of interest and no small amount of anxiety.

Humanity calls loudly for the reform of the criminal classes, and any laws that may be enacted by any State which does not tend to improve their condition, drawing their attention to honest labor, will certainly be condemned by the people.

INDIANA.

WARDEN, Michigan City.—We have the contract system in this penitentiary, and have had it since 1860. The price received by the State for convicts varies from 45 to 70 cents. They are engaged in: cooperage 130; chair making 180; hosiery 175; boots and shoes 125. Convicts average 10 hours per day. The influence of convict labor has been such as against free labor, that I think it will be abolished. As to the best method to adopt in dealing with convict labor I cannot say, as I have not given the subject much attention.

IOWA.

G. W. CROSBY, Warden, Fort Madison.—The contract system has been in vogue here since 1856. The State receives 45 cents per day for part of her convicts and 50 cents per day for the balance, for 10 hours per day. They are engaged in

making boots and shoes, chairs and farming implements, such as forks, hoes, etc. It does not affect free labor, but there is a strong prejudice against it. I believe the contract system is the best for the State to adopt. Convicts should be employed at some form of labor that requires the exercise of skill and intelligence and should be self-supporting. The system of labor we have here is in my opinion the best that can be adopted, but it cannot be maintained on account of popular prejudice and must give place in the near future to some other system—perhaps the public account system or piece price plan. I think either system can be made to work well under proper management. I do not like the lease system—particularly when the State surrenders the entire control and management of the prisoners to the lessor.

M. BARR, Warden, Anamosa, Iowa.—We have 320 convicts wholly engaged in construction of prisons and general prison work. Work 10 hours per day. I would state that I prefer and think our present system here the best, as long as work can be furnished by the State on public buildings.

MAINE.

G. S. BEAN, Warden, Thomaston.—The State account is in vogue here and has been thirty years. The State receives for convict labor from 20 to 50 cents per day. They manufacture carriages and harness. Ten hours constitute a day's work. The influence of convict labor on free labor has had no influence here or practically none in this State. The State account system is the best plan if judiciously carried on. The employment of convicts are absolutely necessary and if engaged in some industry which will enable them to earn an honest livelihood, with proper regard to outside manufacturers, it seems that no injury could be done to any.

MASSACHUSETTS.

E. S. RUSSELL, Warden, Charlestown.—In this institution 130 men work by contract; 200 upon the piece price plan; 100 are used for prison work, and 50 are idle. The piece price plan has been in operation but one year and was adopted to suit public opinion. Those convicts working by contract earn for the State 30 to 50 cents per day; those by the piece price 15 to 20 cents. The convicts are engaged in making spring beds, boots and shoes and harness. They work from 9 to 10 hours per day. Free labor has not been damaged by convict labor. There is in my opinion no better system to adopt than to keep men in their places by the old fashioned way of so much per day. My prison is not looked upon as a reformatory, although it could be made as much so as any if we could be allowed to keep the men at work. They have just introduced a bill into the legislature which I am afraid will become a law—which will in my opinion undermine all wholesome discipline in the prison. It is in substance, State account work, which will take five years to get into proper working order.

MICHIGAN.

E. C. WALKINS, Warden, Ionia.—The convicts are worked here partly by contract and partly by State account. These systems have been in operation since the foundation of this penitentiary in 1877. The State gets about 50 cents per day for each convict. The convicts are engaged in making cigars, chairs and bedsteads. They work 10 hours per day. The influence of convict labor on free labor is not noticeably injurious. I should think the contract system is the best to adopt. I believe the labor of convicts should be let for a per diem compensation, but the discipline and control (except as to instruction in work) kept by the State is the best method yet tried in our State.

MISSISSIPPI.

DAVID JOHNSON, Superintendent Penitentiary, Jackson, Mississippi—Since January 1st, 1887, our prisoners have been leased to Gulf Ship and Ship Island Railroad Company, previous to which time they were leased to work on farms. The compensation received by the State for convict labor is $20,000 per annum in first mortgage bonds of the Railroad Company. Convicts are engaged at railroad work and manufacturing wagons, carts, etc., at walls; 632 railroad work, 126 in the walls. Convicts worked from sunrise to sunset, with rest in middle of day.

For many years the penitentiary and convicts of this State have been leased and then sub-leased to work on farms. This mode became unpopular on account of being in conflict with honest labor, the Legislature of 1886 changed the system and now require all to work on railroads, levees, etc., or public works. Still this does not give general satisfaction, and it is quite likely that the next legislature will make another change. Complaint is made of bad treatment of convicts under this system. Some of this true and a great deal not true. Our convicts not being skilled it is hard to tell what plan is the best. I don't think there is much reformation about the class of men we generally have in the penitentiary.

MISSOURI.

D. W. MARMADUKE, Warden, Jefferson City.—The contract system has been in operation here for ten years. Formerly the State worked the convicts by the lease system, but it was changed to the present system because the lease system did not work well. The State now receives about 47½ cents per day for the convicts. They manufacture boots and shoes, saddle-trees, harness, saddlery and clothing. Boots and shoes, 500; saddle-trees, 200; harness, 200; and clothing, 40. Convicts average 9 hours per day. The working of the convicts has no appreciable effect upon free labor that I can see. Unquestionably the contract system is the best. I favor the contract system because I believe: firstly, it interferes less with the free labor of the country; secondly, best for the convict; thirdly, best for the State. It is best for free labor, inasmuch as the contractor or manufacturer, in order to sustain himself and make his business profitable, must sell his manufactured goods for as much money in the market as outside manufacturers, thereby maintaining values. This is on the theory, which I believe to be true, that con-

tract labor, everything considered, is not cheap labor. It is best for the convict, because it better assures active work, steady work and efficient work, which best promotes his mental, moral and physical condition. It best promotes the interest of the State, because it relieves it from a heavy loss that would most certainly follow the effort to carry on a large and diversified manufacturing business, employing so many agents, and without the individual responsibility.

What I mean by the contract system is that the State should retain the absolute control of discipline, feeding, clothing and all control of the convict, leaving only to the contractor the right to his proper services at proper times and under proper conditions.

NEBRASKA.

R. W. HYER, Warden, Hyersville.—The lease and contract system are in operation in this institution, and has been for ten years. The State pays the lessee 40 cents per day per capita, and the lessee sublets at the same rate. Convicts are engaged in harness-making, tailoring, making farm implements, brooms, trunks, etc. They work 10 hours per day. Convict labor has had no influence on free labor, so far as I can tell. I think the State should contract her prisoners.

NEVADA.

F. J. MCCULLOUGH, Warden, Carson City.—The State account system is in vogue here. The prisoners work principally on stone-cutting, 25; boots and shoes, 48. They work 8 hours per day.

Which system is best to adopt has not been very much discussed in Nevada. Prices for stone furnished by convict labor, as well as boots and shoes manufactured, have been kept at such a grade as not to interfere with those on the outside in same business.

Owing to such a state of facts, I do not think any suggestions I could make would be of use, as I think a person before doing so should have more experience than we can gather here.

At the last session of our Legislature the subject was partially discussed, but no steps were taken to change the present system.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

FRANK S. DODGE, Warden, Concord.—The contract system has been in operation here for thirty years. The State gets 50 cents per day for her convicts, and they make wood bedsteads. There are 102 convicts thus employed. They work 10½ hours in summer and during day-light in winter. There have been no complaints against convict labor in this State. I should say the contract system is the best system to adopt.

NEW YORK.

J. P. BROCKWAY, Warden, Elmira.—Public account system is in operation here, and has been since 1st September, 1886, also previously from 1877 until 1880, then the contract system until September, 1886. The present system has been adopted on account of public sentiment, as expressed by a popular vote about 1883. The question, under pressure of labor reform agitators, was then submitted to the people, not for a constitutional amendment, but for their advisory vote. A bill in 1884, following this vote, prohibited the contract system at expiration of existing contracts. Under present system, the State receives whatever of profits accrue.

The convicts are employed in the manufacture of holloware, brushes, brooms, tinware, chairs; besides manufacture shoes, clothing, etc., etc., for prison use. The number engaged in each is as follows: holloware 160, tin 23, brushes 291, brooms 84, chairs 26, employed outside and idle, 242. Eight hours constitute a day's work. Convict labor has probably no general or perceptible influence on free labor. It is largely imaginary, but to a certain extent, of course, convict labor displaces free labor, but only to the extent that convicts are withdrawn from possible free labor.

1. Free labor is effected by prison labor, if at all affected, substantially the same by one system as another, that is to say, there is no inherent difference of effect in one system or another.

2. The interest of the State is in the use of labor for reclamation of criminals from criminality, and is, of course, identical with the purpose to reform the criminal. The *public account* system is the true ideal, but the *piece price plan* may be as beneficial and is most practical.

Convicts must be employed, productively employed, if labor is to be reformative. Mechanical labor is best in our Northern States, as facilitating the released convict's support by his own work, and it is best elsewhere for the training of the hand and mind in prison for improvement (reformation). The placing of convicts, as to their living and indulgences, limited of course in situation, analogous to free workers, so that they are obliged to earn what they have, is the most advanced and truest thought about convict labor, and is best accomplished under the piece price plan.

OHIO.

E. G. COFFIN, Warden, Columbus.—The systems in use here for working convicts are the contract and piece price. Contract since the prison was built, piece price about three years. The piece price system was adopted to suit political demagogues on the labor question. The State receives, under contract, 76 cents per day for able bodied men; for infirm men from 50 to 55 cents per day; surplus labor one dollar per day; under the piece price plan, regulated by the article made by the prisoner, with generally a guarantee of 76 cents from the contractor.

The convicts are employed in various occupations, such as making holloware, harness, agricultural implements, cigars, &c. They work 10 hours per day. The contract system, I am of the opinion, has had no serious detrimental effects on free labor, and the best system for the State to adopt is the plain, simple contract system.

PENNSYLVANIA.

MICHAEL J. CASSIDY, Warden, Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia.—The State account system has been in use here fifty-eight years. In this State counties sending prisoners get credit for all the earnings except prisoners overwork. They are engaged in shoe-making, cigar-making, chairs, brush-making, weaving, hosiery-knitting and mat-making. The prisoners are not worked by the day but so much work for a task. Convict labor has not had much influence on free labor in this State, because no power machinery is used; therefore we do not produce largely of any one industry. I think the State account system is the best for the prisoner and the community.

The Eastern State Penitentiary has been in use since 1829. There has never been any method other than State account; no contracts for anything, all goods purchased in the open market for cash. It is a small business for a great State to engage with an individual in a manufacturing business sharing the profits of the labor of its citizens convicted of crime with a contractor. It is not economy, but costs the State more in the end besides injuring the individual prisoner by associating with others to his disadvantage when released from custody. There can be no possible doubt that all labor in prisons should be hand labor without the aid of power machinery; this method gives the individual the use of tools, he learns some business trade that is useful to him out of prison and is not so likely to get back again.

EDWARD S. WRIGHT, Warden, Western Penitentiary, Alleghany.—The State account system has been in operation here since 1st of January, 1886. The convicts are employed in making cocoa mats and matting 183; shoes on unexpired contract 330. The convicts work 8 hours per day.

From the year 1869, the congregate contract system of labor was in vogue in this prison with very satisfactory results as to the interests of the State, health, discipline and reformation of convicts. In 1883, the contract system was abolished by Legislature enactment, and the authorities directed to employ the prisoners on State account. Our experience with this system—which was not commenced until the 1st of January, 1886, owing to unexpired contracts—has not been sufficient to enable us to give an intelligent opinion as to how the interests of the State will be effected by the change, but so far as we can judge, the effect upon the convict is about the same as under the old system, except that the privilege of earning money by overwork has been cut off, which was quite a stimulus to industry, faithful performance of duty and aid to discipline.

The conducting of business on State account here has developed such vigorous antagonism from outside manufacturers in the same line of goods, owing to the competition—who have used the question of "injury to free labor," with all possible effect, and which we think, has given exaggerated impressions of the injury done to free labor, and has rendered it next to impossible to arrive at the truth. We may say, however, that we have never yet seen it clearly established that the employment of convicts at productive labor, under any system, has materially effected the interests of free labor.

RHODE ISLAND.

NELSON VIALL, Warden, Howard.—Our system here is to let by contract. The contract system has been in use thirty years. The compensation received by the State is 40 cents per day. The convicts are employed in making shoes and boots (150) and all kinds of wire goods (12). The convicts work 10 hours in summer and only during day-light in winter. Convict labor has not interfered with outside labor. The contract system is the best to adopt. The State account and piece-price plan equally are more objectionable than the contract system. They affect outside labor the same. If the State account system is adopted it would require $75,000 from the treasury to carry on the business. No warden can expect to succeed over outside manufacturers who have given years to learn the business. The piece-price plan gives the contractors too much control over the prisoner, and has not proved a success elsewhere. We reserve the entire control over the inmates, and with a well-defined contract, have no difficulty. The prison labor of the country is but a drop in the bucket as opposed to free labor, or one man in a thousand. The politician is largely responsible for the mischief already done.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

T. J. LIPSCOMBE, Superintendent, Columbia.—The lease system to outside parties and contract to parties inside the prison are the methods we use to work the convicts. The first system has been in use about eleven years and the second about six years. The compensation received for convict labor is $6.50 per capita per month and all expenses on outside lease, 50 cents per capita per day for men and 37 cents for women and boys under 16 years on inside contracts. The employments in which convicts are engaged are: Shoe factory and hosiery factory, each about 100; phosphate works, 86: railroad work, 139; brick-making, 78; farming, 346. Ten hours constitute a day's work. Convict labor has had no appreciable influence on free labor in this State. The best system to adopt is the contract for manufacturing inside the prison.

With the exception of 29 hands at work on a farm owned and controlled by the State, all of the farm and brick-yard hands are at work on shares; that is, the the owner of the farm or brick-yard furnishes the land and outfit and the State furnishes and maintains the labor, and the proceeds are divided equally.

VIRGINIA.

W. W. MOSES, Warden, Richmond.—The convicts here are worked under contract, and have been since 1880. The hiring of convicts to contractors was adopted to make the institution self-sustaining, and give the convicts healthy employment, beneficial to both State and convict. The State receives in compensation between $6,000 and $7,000 per month, more or less. The convicts are employed in the manufacture of shoes 500, tobacco 90, balance in railroad building, and work on county roads. The convicts work 10 hours per day.

Convict labor has had no effect upon free labor in this State, so far as worked inside of the penitentiary. If any, it is the building of railroads and other public

works by the convicts, which could be done by free labor. The contract system, as worked now, is the very best system that could be adopted, as well for the convict as for the State, and should be kept up, the opinions of some to the contrary notwithstanding.

WEST VIRGINIA.

J. F. BURLEY, Warden, Moundsville.—Contract system is in vogue here, and has been about ten years. The State receives for her convicts from 50 to 65 cents per day for able bodied men. They are engaged in whip making, broom manufacturing and wagon manufacturing. The convicts work 10 hours per day.

Convict labor has injured outside wagon manufacturing in this State. I don't know what system would be best to adopt.

WISCONSIN.

GEO. W. CARTER, Warden, Wampum.—The contract system is in vogue here, and has been ten years December 31st, 1887. This system was adopted in place of the State account system, which had been a failure financially. The State receives 50 cents per day for her convicts. The wages begin on the first day of assignment to the shop. The State furnishes shop room and power. Boots and shoes, M. D. Wells & Co., Chicago, contractors, about 340. About 100 are required in prison duties. The convicts are worked 10 hours per day. We have electric light and work regular hours. There has been some complaint by manufacturing firms against contract prison labor generally.

For a convict prison, the contract system, in my opinion, is preferable. For a reformatory for the young, first offenders and the reclaimable, I would prefer the State account. By the former the convicts will be made to pay their maintainance, by the latter the State must bear the expense.

CHAPTER IX.

LABOR AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

In recent years there has been shown a disposition on the part of the industrial forces of the country of all classes to combine and organize. This disposition has been shown in various ways, and it has been carried to such an extent that those unorganized feel that there is no protection for them outside of organization. This feeling is not confined alone to employees, but to employers as well. The fact is, that capital is far better organized than labor, and its organization has gone on so silently, persistently and perfectly that what has been accomplished has been regarded by the great majority as a matter of course and perfectly proper. This organization through pools, associations and combinations has proceeded to such an extent that it embraces nearly everything produced and manufactured for the use of the people. In this way the price of nearly everything in the market is sought to be dictated. The ways of the monopolist prevail. Natural law, the law of supply and demand, does not govern the markets or exercise much influence upon them. There are railroad pools, telegraph monopolies, oil and coal combinations, iron associations of various kinds, bread and meat combinations, and numerous other kinds of associations of capital, which in one way or another determine how much shall be made, the compensation for making, and the price to be paid for what is made. This is accomplished sometimes by suspension of business in order to force the price of commodities up, and wages down, sometimes by "corners" in the market, which regulate its supply and demand, sometimes even by boycotts used with effect by combinations of capital to accomplish their purposes, and by various other methods too many to enumerate the industrial channels of the country have been operated by a comparatively few men—some of whom have amassed such great fortunes as to seem incredible, all because they have been able through combinations to lay the whole country under tribute to them. Frequently the spectacle is presented that while

the grainaries of the country are filled with food and its warehouses crowded with merchandize, combinations declare a war upon plenty, and those things which are most plentiful are made to rise to abnormal prices. In this way concentrated wealth is a power in this country, which all men are made to see and acknowledge. It can and does exercise an immense influence, not only with reference to private interests, but of public interests as well. Concerning this power of concentrated wealth in this country, Dr. Josiah Strong, of New York, in his celebrated book, "Our Country—its Possible Future and its Present Crisis," says:

"The framers of our Government aimed to secure the distribution of power. They were careful to make the several departments—executive, legislative and judicial—operate as checks on each other. An executive, chosen by the people and responsible to them, may exercise but little authority; and after a short period he must return it to them. But a money-king may double, quadruple, centuple his wealth if he can. He may exercise vastly more power than the Governor of his State; but he is irresponsible. He is not a constitutional monarch, but a czar. He is not chosen by the people with reference to his fitness to administer so great a trust; he may lack utterly all moral qualifications for it. We have, indeed, some rich men who are an honor to our civilization; but the power of many millions is almost certain to find its way into strong and unscrupulous hands. Our money-king must not, after two or four years, return his power to the people; he has a life-tenure of office, provided only his grip upon his golden sceptre be strong. Less than thirty years ago, Emerson wrote for our wonder: 'Some English private fortunes reach, and some exceed, a million dollars a year.' At least one American has an income of $1,000,000 a month; and others follow hard after him. A list of one man's stocks, bonds and securities makes his aggregate wealth a little over $201,000,000. The assessed valuation of the aggregate property, real and personal, of four great States of the Union, having a territory of nearly 350,000 square miles, falls short of this one fortune by several millions of dollars. And there are fourteen States which separately return less property, real and personal, than this modern Midas. He owns one two-hundred-and-eighteenth of the wealth of the Nation."

The laboring people of the country have seen what has been accomplished by combined capital, and they have sometimes felt its power. They have had quarrels and contests with it, and have generally been worsted. They have believed that their failures were due to want of organization—hence they have sent out their agents to organize their forces, and these agents have gone forth preaching organization, not it is claimed for purposes of war, but for purposes of preservation and peace. Their preaching has had an effect. The

spirit of organization is abroad in the country as never before. The unorganized feel that they must organize if they would subserve their best interests. Mechanics and laborers, therefore, have organized themselves into unions, associations and assembles, and the hitherto conservative farmers are associating themselves by means of granges, alliances and farmers' clubs. These occupations embrace the great majority of the people, who say that the minority has become so strong through organization that they are disposed to impose upon the majority, and that they need protection, and can only get it by combining for mutual protection; and they are acting upon that idea. The greatest spirit of organization, however, has been manifested among mechanics and laborers, principally in the North and Northwest.

A great many good men who have not been alarmed to any great extent on account of the combinations of capital which have developed in the country, have become alarmed at these counter organizations which have sprung up on all sides on the part of the labor forces. They think they see great danger in this spirit of organization. This feeling of uneasiness has been brought about by the imprudence and even recklessness of some who have essayed to speak and act for the labor interests, and it has been too often the case in the contests between labor and capital which have occurred in the past the worst enemies to organized labor have been found in its own ranks. These have created the distrust which exists; but the bad ought not to cause the condemnation of the good. It ought not to be forgotten that organized labor has had to contend not only with reckless and inconsiderate members but with prudent and sagacious opponents as well, and while it has not at all times acted for its best interests, yet it is undeniably true that the history of labor organizations prove, that they have subserved the highest good of those whom they would benefit, when conducted for legitimate purposes. Certainly it can be said that in late years organized labor has been led by very prudent men, who have had no sympathy with the reckless ones who have tried to foist themselves and their ideas upon the labor cause. These leaders of the workingmen of the country have commended themselves and their cause to thoughtful men everywhere. They have acted with the highest wisdom and patriotism. Their work is being felt. Organization goes steadily

on, and there is now a more healthy sentiment in favor of the rights of the masses than ever before. Whatever may be said of these labor organizations, they have done more to bring this about than any other agency, and they are entitled to thanks of all the people for it.

The spirit of organization which is abroad in the country has been felt to a considerable extent in our own State. A short history of the principal orders that seem to claim the attention of our people is given in the following pages:

KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

Foremost among the labor organizations of the country stands the Knights of Labor, both in numbers and influence. This organization is not a mere trades union, but may be more properly called a union of trades; indeed it takes into its membership not only workingmen of every trade, but also those of no trade. This order has made, and is still making, rapid strides in this country, the present membership in the United States reaching, it is claimed, more than half a million.

The Knights of Labor is a secret but not oath-bound association. It is both federal and national—federation by the trades and pursuits it brings under its shield, and national by reason of the extent and purposes of its organization. Its international phase is also now assuming interesting proportions, Local Assemblies of the order having been recently organized in almost every known country, and State and District Assemblies in England and Belgium.

All persons who work for a living are eligible to membership in the order, except those who sell or make a living or any part of it by the sale of intoxicating drinks, either as manufacturer, dealer or agent, and no lawyer, banker, professional gambler or stock broker can be admitted. The order makes no distinction of race or sex. It is opposed to strikes, favors arbitration as the best means of settling all differences between employee and employer, and is nonpartisan.

The question is often asked why such an organization is thought necessary? We will let Mr. Powderly the head of the order answer this question, as he does in the following extract from his response to

an address of welcome delivered at the session of the General Assembly at Richmond Virginia, 1886 :

"The question is asked, "Why have you such an organization as the Knights of Labor?" And the answer comes from the lips of every man who does not receive just compensation for labor done ; it comes from the lips of the thousands of underpaid, underfed and overworked laborers and mechanics ; it comes from the mouths of thousands of farmers whose lands are as profitless as though a blight had fallen on them ; it comes from every hill-top and valley and every home where the pangs of unrequited toil are felt. That answer is, because men in whose hands power and wealth have been placed have forgotten that this nation is a Republic ; because they have forgotten that the founders of the Republic intended that it should be maintained, upheld, and governed by and for the people of the Republic. We are Knights of Labor because we believe that the Declaration of Independence means something more than mere words and beautiful sentences. We are Knights of Labor because we believe that if it was wrong for an alien king to oppress a people and rob them, it is also wrong for any other man to oppress or rob his fellow-creatures.

* * * We are Knights of Labor because we believe that the rights of the poorest, humblest man or woman of toil should stand forth more clearly, and be treated with more of respect, than the privileges conferred upon, or stolen by, the wealthiest in the nation. We are Knights of Labor because politicians and political parties have deceived, degraded, and debauched the people ; because they have too often gained power through deception and fraud, and in return for the confidence reposed in them they have basely deserted the common people and knelt at the shrine of gold."

Another question often asked in connection with this organization is, whether or not they believe in, and advocate *force* as a means of bringing about the reforms that they seek. Upon this point we also let the highest authority in the Order speak. In an address of Mr. Powderly, issued some months ago, he says :

"Our order is an army of workers. Our mission is to educate the heads and hearts, and not the hands or feet of our members. The torch of the incendiary, the dagger of the assassin and the bomb of the dynamiter, are not the weapons of the order of Knights of Labor, and the member who advocates a resort to such methods in the Assembly violates his obligation as a Knight. If each Assembly will perform its duty as an educator, each member will have in his possession a light that will shine with tenfold more brilliancy than the torch of the incendiary. The God-given intellect of man, illuminated by a knowledge of his true condition in life, will prove a more dangerous torch to the enemy of man than the torch of the incendiary.

A complete organization and unification of the workers and their friends, and an abandonment of the mean, little, petty spites and jealousies which continually rise up between men and their duty to each other, will prove a far more powerful weapon than the dagger of the assassin.

With men and women organized and taught by experience, discussion and association what their rights are, their united voices, when they speak out as one man in defence of a principle, will make more noise in the world than the exploding bomb of the dynamiter."

The Knights of Labor was at first strictly a secret organization, not even its name or purposes was made known. The order originated with Uriah S. Stevens, a tailor, and the first Assembly was instituted in the City of Philadelphia in 1873, composed of Mr. Stevens and six other tailors, all of whom are now living except Mr. Stevens and Mr. Cook. Mr. Stevens died in 1882. In respect to his memory, the order has purchased a home for his wife and family in the city of Philadelphia.

In 1881 the order was made public, and the following declaration of purposes was published to the world:

PREAMBLE AND DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES OF THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

The alarming development and aggressiveness of great capitalists and corporations, unless checked, will inevitably lead to the pauperization and hopeless degradation of the toiling masses.

It is imperative, if we desire to enjoy the full blessings of life, that a check be placed upon unjust accumulation and the power for evil of aggregated wealth.

This much-desired object can be accomplished only by the united efforts of those who obey the divine injunction, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread."

Therefore we have formed the Order of Knights of Labor, for the purpose of organizing and directing the power of the industrial masses, not as a political party, for it is more—in it are crystalized sentiments and measures for the benefit of the whole people; but it should be borne in mind, when exercising the right of suffrage, that most of the objects herein set forth can only be obtained through legislation, and that it is the duty of all to assist in nominating and supporting with their votes only such candidates as will pledge their support to those measures, regardless of party; but no one shall, however, be compelled to vote with the majority. And calling upon all who believe in securing "the greatest good to the greatest number" to join and assist us, we declare to the world that our aims are:

I. To make industrial and moral worth, not wealth, the true standard of individual and National greatness.

II. To secure to the workers the full enjoyment of the wealth they create, sufficient leisure in which to develop their intellectual, moral and social faculties: all of the benefits, recreation and pleasures of association; in a word, to enable them to share in the gains and honors of advancing civilization.

In order to secure these results, we demand at the hands of the STATE:

III. The establishment of Bureaus of Labor Statistics, that we may arrive at a

correct knowledge of the educational, moral and financial condition of the laboring masses.

IV. That the public lands, the heritage of the people, be reserved for actual settlers—not another acre for railroads or speculators; and that all lands now held for speculative purposes be taxed to their full value.

V. The abrogation of all laws that do not bear equally upon capital and labor, and the removal of unjust technicalities, delays and discriminations in the administration of justice.

VI. The adoption of measures providing for the health and safety of those engaged in mining and manufacturing, building industries, and for indemnification to those engaged therein for injuries received through lack of necessary safeguards.

VII. The recognition, by incorporation, of trades' unions, orders and such other associations as may be organized by the working masses to improve their condition and protect their rights.

VIII. The enactment of laws to compel corporations to pay their employees weekly, in lawful money, for the labor of the preceding week, and giving mechanics and laborers a first lien upon the product of their labor to the extent of their full wages.

IX. The abolition of the contract system on National, State and Municipal works.

X. The enactment of laws providing for arbitration between employers and employed, and to enforce the decision of the arbitrators.

XI. The prohibition by law of the employment of children under 15 years of age in workshops, mines and factories.

XII. To prohibit the hiring out of convict labor.

XIII. That a graduated income tax be levied.

And we demand at the hands of CONGRESS:

XIV. The establishment of a National monetary system, in which a circulating medium in necessary quantity shall issue direct to the people, without the intervention of banks; that all the National issue shall be full legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private; and that the Government shall not guarantee or recognize any private banks or create any banking corporations.

XV. That interest-bearing bonds, bills of credit or notes shall never be issued by the Government, but that, when need arises, the emergency shall be met by issue of legal tender, non-interest-bearing money.

XVI. That the importation of foreign labor under contract be prohibited.

XVII. That, in connection with the post-office, the Government shall organize financial exchanges, safe deposits and facilities for deposit of the savings of the people in small sums.

XVIII. That the Government shall obtain possession, by purchase, under the right of eminent domain, of all telegraphs, telephones and railroads; and that hereafter no charter or license be issued to any corporation for construction or operation of any means of transporting intelligence, passengers or freight.

And while making the foregoing demands upon the State and National Government, we will endeavor to associate our own labors:

XIX. To establish coöperative institutions, such as will tend to supersede the wage system, by the introduction of a coöperative industrial system.

XX. To secure for both sexes equal pay for equal work.

XXI. To shorten the hours of labor by a general refusal to work for more than eight hours.

XXII. To persuade employers to agree to arbitrate all differences which may arise between them and their employees, in order that the bonds of sympathy between them may be strengthened and that strikes may be rendered unnecessary.

This order was introduced into North Carolina in 1884, the first Assembly being organized in the city of Raleigh on June 18th of that year by Mr. John R. Ray, a printer, of Raleigh. Since that date the order has grown very rapidly in North Carolina, and there are now Assemblies in most of the counties of the State, a State Assembly which meets annually, and several District Assemblies. It has been difficult to get correct statistics in regard to the present strength of the order in the State, because of the fact that many of the Local Assemblies are not under the jurisdiction of the State Assembly, but work and report direct with the General Assembly, whose headquarters are at Philadelphia, Pa. The membership of the order in the State, however, is large, and is composed of male and female, white and colored.

FARMER'S ALLIANCE.

The Farmer's Alliance originated in Texas in 1872, in Lampasas county, and primarily its object was to protect farmers and stockmen against the depredations of horse and cattle-thieves and land swindlers. It exercised a salutary influence in this regard. The farmers, seeing the advantages which accrued to them in a limited way, and also perceiving that the farmers of the country were at the mercy of organized corporations and monopolists, and believing that many of the wrongs under which the farmers of the land suffered could be remedied through organization, in 1875 enlarged the purpose of the Alliance in Texas into a kind of coöperative and protective association for farmers, with the object of cultivating social and charitable relations among its members, and also of inaugurating a system of buying and selling together, and by this plan obtaining the best prices for farm products. The order then commenced actively to prosecute its organization in that State. The history of the Alliance up to 1885 was not attended with much interest, but from that year its work and methods became so popular that it soon spread

over Texas, and was introduced into Louisiana, and became strong in that State also.

In January, 1887, twenty-one delegates from Texas and Louisiana, representing a membership of over two hundred thousand in Texas and ten thousand in Louisiana, met in Waco, Texas, for the purpose of organizing The National Farmer's Alliance and Coöperative Union of America, under a call for that purpose.

When the delegates met at Waco it was shown that there was already in existence an organization in the Northwest calling itself the National Farmers' Alliance, but that it was a very loose organization, and was not secret; that its door to membership was too wide for it to meet the wants of the times in the South. It was the prevailing sentiment that none but those interested in farming should be admitted as members. It was also decided, after a full investigation, that the organization as it existed in Texas, could accomplish nothing by joining the National Farmers' Alliance of the Northwest, and in view of the fact that the cotton belt of America was a circumscribed country, there was a necessity for a National Alliance of those residing in the cotton belt. It was, therefore, determined to organize, in connection with Louisiana, a National Farmers' Alliance and Coöperative Union for the South; to make it a strong national order with the one great end of coöperation as the main principle upon which farmers should be asked to unite—that is, coöperation in its broadest sense, in which the farmers were to assist one another and stand together in a social way, in buying and selling and in producing and consuming.

The constitution which was adopted at Waco declared that the Alliance should be a secret organization; that it should be non-partisan in politics, and non-sectarian in religion, and that it should be composed exclusively of white persons who are citizens of the United States. A declaration of purposes was also put forth by the Convention, which is as follows:

Profoundly impressed that we, the farmers of America, who are united by the strong and faithful ties of financial and home interests, should, when organized into an association, set forth our declaration of principles. We therefore resolve—

1. To labor for the education of the agricultural classes in the science of economic government in a strictly non-partisan spirit, and to bring about a more perfect union of said classes.

2. That we demand equal rights to all and special favors to none.

3. That we return to the old principle of letting the office seek the man, instead of the man seeking the office.

4. To endorse the motto: "In things essential, unity; in all things, charity."

5. To develop a better state mentally, morally, socially, and financially.

6. To create a better understanding for sustaining our civil officers in maintaining law and order.

7. To constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will to all mankind, and brotherly love among ourselves.

8. To suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthful rivalry and all selfish ambition.

9. The brightest jewels which it garners are the tears of widows and orphans, and its imperative commands are to visit the homes where lacerated hearts are bleeding; to assuage the sufferings of a brother or sister; bury the dead; care for the widows and educate the orphans; to exercise charity towards offenders; to construe words and deeds in their most favorable light, granting honesty of purpose and good intentions to others, and to protect the principles of the National Farmers' Alliance and Coöperative Union until death. Its laws are reason and equity, its cardinal doctrines inspire purity of thought and life, its intention is "Peace on earth and good will to men."

Since the Convention at Waco, in January, 1887, the Alliance has increased very rapidly in the South. On the 12th of last October the second Convention of the National Alliance was held at Shreveport, Louisiana, and was composed of delegates from all the Southern States, representing a constituency of 1,200,000 members.

Mr. C. W. Macune, President of the National Alliance, says in reference to the causes which occasioned the rapid growth of the Alliance, that it was because "all other occupations were either organized or were rapidly organizing and the farming interest was unable to cope with them without organization, therefore the necessity for organization and self-defence. Again, the results of combination had reduced the price of all products the farmer had to sell to such an extent, that in many cases they would not pay the price of the hirelings who produced them, and they were really grown at a loss. The rule was that a year spent in the most vigorous labor and rigid economy would with good management yield a bare subsistence, and in many cases it yielded less, and would finally result in a surrender of the farm to the mortgagee merchant and the addition of one more family to the army of renters. It seems to be an admitted fact that organization was the only hope of the farmer, and as the Alliance was presented as strictly a farmers organization. Its ranks were rapidly filled with all those who felt disposed to unite and

resist the encroachments of other organizations, and who realize that it required organization to meet organized power. * * It is proverbial that the other two great classes of production, the manufacturing and the commercial, which includes railroads and transportation lines have been largely built up to their present condition of wealth and prosperity by government favors and assistance. Now, if this be true, at whose expense has the government done this, as there are only three classes of producers? It must evidently be at the expense of the great agricultural class. This is now fully realized and is productive of a determination on the part of our people to submit to such wrongs no longer."

At the Convention at Shreveport, the National Alliance adopted the following additional declaration of principles as the voice of the tillers of the soil:

Resolved, That we, the National Farmers' Alliance and Co-operative Union of America, in convention assembled, advocate and endorse the following principles as in accord with the sentiments and demands of the tillers of the soil;

1st. We demand, first, the recognition by incorporation of trades' unions, co-operative stores and such other associations as may be organized by the industrial classes to improve their financial condition, or promote their general welfare.

2d. We demand that all the public lands be held in small bodies, not exceeding three hundred and twenty acres to each purchaser, for actual settlers, on easy terms of payment.

3d. That large bodies of land held by private individuals or corporations, shall be assessed for taxation at such rates as they are offered to purchasers, on a credit of one, two and three years, in bodies of one hundred and sixty acres or less.

4th. That whereas, large bodies of our public lands have been sold to foreign capitalists, thus tending to the establishment of a landed aristocracy in this country, similar to that which has reduced the people of Ireland, and other monarchial governments, to a condition of abject serfdom; we demand the passage of laws forbidding the ownership of lands, by aliens, whose allegiance beiongs to other nations, and that the public domain be held as the heritage of our own people and our children after us.

5th. That all lands forfeitable by railroads or other corporations, immediately revert to the government and be declared open for purchase by actual settlers, on the same terms as other public lands.

7th. We demand that all fences be removed, by force if necessary, from public lands, unlawfully fenced by cattle companies, syndicates, or any other form or name of monopoly.

8th. We demand the extinguishment of the public debt of the United States by operating the mints to their fullest capacity in coining silver and gold, and the tendering of the same without discrimination to the public creditors of the Nation, according to contract.

9th. We demand the substitution of legal tender treasury notes for the issues

of National banks; that the Congress of the United States shall regulate the amount of such issue by per capita circulation that shall increase and keep pace with the growth of the country's population, and the expansion of her business interests. We further demand the repeal of the present National banking system.

10th. We demand that the department of agriculture be made one of the departments of State; that it shall be increased in scope and efficiency, and in connection therewith, there shall be established a bureau of labor statistics.

11th. We demand the enactment of laws to compel corporations to pay their employees according to contract, in lawful money for their services, and the giving to mechanics and laborers a first lien upon the products of their labor to the extent of their full wages.

12th. That the laws relating to the suppression of the transmission of immoral, profane or obscene literature through the mails be made more stringent, and be extended so as to suppress the transmission of such literature by any public carrier.

13th. We demand that the United States Government purchase, by right of eminent domain, the telephone and telegraph lines, and operate them as adjuncts of the United States postal service.

14th. That in view of the fact that the delegates to this body represent a majority of the cotton producers of the cotton belt of America, which belt produces over two-thirds of the cotton of the whole world, and in view of the further fact that two-thirds of the cotton in the cotton belt is demanded and used for export to a foreign power, which fixes the price on every pound of our cotton; and in view of the fact that said power is debarred from returning to this country a single yard of manufactured cotton, thereby making said power interested in crowding down to the lowest figure the price of cotton, we hereby demand that the United States Government adopt a speedy system of reduction of the import duty on manufactured cottons in such a way as to do justice to this, the greatest of all classes of producers.

14th. We demand such a revision of the tariff as will lay the heaviest burdens on the luxuries and the lightest on the necessaries of life, and as will reduce the incomes from imports to a strictly revenue basis.

15th. That as a remedy against the unjust accumulation and encroachment of capital, we demand a graduated income tax.

16th. That as upon the intelligence of the people depend the stability and perpetuity of our own free government, we demand for the masses a well regulated system of industrial and agricultural education.

17th. That we oppose the continued influx of pauper labor from the monarchies of Europe, whose anarchic views and communistic doctrines are breeding discontent and disloyalty to law, order, peace and good government, and by an overplus of worthless labor, reducing our own laboring classes to starvation; we therefore demand more stringent laws to prevent this country being further used as an asylum for the communists and paupers of other countries.

18th. We demand that the constitutions, both State and National, be so amended as to provide for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

We learn from Col. L. L. Polk, Secretary of the North Carolina State Alliance, that the Alliance was introduced into North Carolina

in the spring of the past year by J. B. Barry, Esq., of Texas, who organized the first subordinate alliance at Ashepole, in Robeson county, on the 20th of April, 1887. A County Alliance was formed in the same county on the 28th of May, 1887, being the first formed in the State.

The State Alliance for North Carolina was organized at Rockingham, October 4th, 1887, at which time there were six County Alliances in the State, with a membership of about ten thousand members. On the 31st of December, 1887, there were twelve County Alliances in the State, and 250 subordinate alliances, with a membership of between twenty-five and thirty thousand members.

The order is increasing very rapidly in North Carolina. There are thirty organizers at work under the State Alliance, and the work of organizing the farmers is being pushed vigorously and successfully. The order promises to become very strong in the State.

The Constitution of the North Carolina Alliance, which was adopted at Rockingham, says in reference to membership in the order that "no person shall be admitted as a member of the Alliance unless he has been a citizen of the State of North Carolina for six months past, and not then unless he be a farmer, farm laborer, mechanic, country school-teacher, country physician or a minister of the gospel, be of good moral character, believe in the existence of a Supreme Being, be of industrious habits, is a white person and over the age of sixteen years."

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

The National Grange was organized in the city of Washington, D. C., in 1866. Its formation is said to have been a conception of P. H. Kelly, a Minnesota farmer, who on account of the drouth and the failure of crops in 1865, sought and obtained employment in the Agricultural Department at Washington. At that time President Johnston was earnestly desiring to place the South once more on its feet, ruined almost by the war, and P. H. Kelly, this Minnesota farmer, was selected to go South as a representative of the Agricultural Department to see what could be done to advance the farming interest. In 1866, he spent several months in the South, and when thus engaged he became impressed with the advantages to the far-

mers of the country of having an organization that would unite them by the "strong and faithful ties of agriculture." When Mr. Kelly returned to Washington he laid his plans before William Saunders then at the head of the government experimental gardens and grounds. Mr. Saunders favored the ideas of Mr. Kelly and the Grange was created. Its seven founders were P. H. Kelly, William Saunders, J. R. Thompson, Rev. A. B. Gresh, F. M. McDowell, I. M. Trimble, William M. Ireland and Miss Carrie A. Hall. It was determined to admit women, with the same rights and privileges as men. The first few years the order grew but little, but in 1873 it grew very rapidly—13,000 subordinate granges being organized in that year, and it continued to increase until 1875 and 1876, when the influence of the order commenced to wane and lost very much of its strength, but still maintaining an existence in nearly all of the States. During the past year or two, however, the order has shown new signs of life in various parts of the country, and also here in our own State. Wherever the Grange has been kept up it is asserted by those who are acquainted with the work done by it, that its influence has been for good and only good to the counties where established. The prosperity and decadence of the order in this State is the same as that which characterized the order in the country. In 1875 and '76, it was very strong in this State, but afterwards it rapidly lost its numbers and influence. Several new granges have, however, been established in the State during the present year, and the order begins to show new signs of life in North Carolina. The history of the order in this State from its inception has been kindly furnished us by H. T. J. Ludwig, Esq., Secretary of the North Carolina State Grange.

The first subordinate Grange formed in this State was organized by Col. D. Wyatt Aiken, General Deputy of the National Grange, on June 7th, 1873, at McLeansville, Guilford county; Col. Aiken then organized twenty-two other subordinate Granges, when the State Grange was organized on the 9th of July, 1873, with nineteen Granges represented. At the close of the first quarter September 30th, 1873, there were one hundred Granges in the State, by December 31st there were forty more added to the roll, and by February 18th, 1874, the number of Granges had increased to two hundred

and thirty-seven, located in forty-nine counties. The total membership in the State at that time was about six thousand.

The order continued to increase, and on March 3d, 1875, there were five hundred and one subordinate Granges in the State with a membership of about fifteen thousand. During the next year there was a net gain of only four Granges and the membership remained about what it was the preceding year. During 1877 there was eleven new Granges organized, making the total number in the State 559. But many of these did not pay up their dues for the last two quarters of 1876 and were therefore not in good standing. A general decline in the order had set in and in the year 1877 there was a loss of over three hundred Granges and a corresponding loss in the total membership estimated at about eight thousand. At the meeting of the State Grange held in Greensboro in February, 1878, the Secretary reported only one hundred and fifty Granges in good standing. Hence, it appears that in less than five years five hundred and fifty-nine (559) Granges had been organized in the State, and of that number over four hundred had become dormant during the same period.

The order continued to loose until 1885, when it may be said to have reached its lowest point, there being on the roll but twenty-six Granges with a membership of about seven hundred. During the year 1886 the number did not vary much; but during 1887 there was a decided change, there being now on the roll 62 Granges with a membership of over two thousand.

The preamble to the Constitution of the National Grange is as follows:

"Human happiness is the acme of earthly ambition. Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity. The prosperity of a nation is in proportion to the value of its productions.

The soil is the source from whence we derive all that constitutes wealth; without it we would have no agriculture, no manufactures, no commerce. Of all the material gifts of the Creator, the various productions of the vegetable world are of the first importance. The art of agriculture is the parent and precursor of all arts, and its products the foundation of all wealth.

The productions of the earth are subject to the influence of natural laws, invariable and indisputable; the amount produced will consequently be in proportion to the intelligence of the producer, and success will depend upon his knowledge of the action of these laws and the proper application of their principles.

Hence, knowledge is the foundation of happiness.

The ultimate object of this organization is for mutual instruction and protection; to lighten labor by diffusing a knowledge of its aims and purposes; expand the mind by tracing the beautiful laws the great Creator has established in the universe, and to enlarge our views of creative wisdom and power.

To those who read aright, history proves that in all ages society is fragmentary, and successful results of general welfare can be secured only by general effort. Unity of action cannot be acquired without discipline, and discipline cannot be enforced without significant organization; hence we have a ceremony of initiation which binds us in mutual fraternity as with a band of iron; but, although its influence is so powerful, its application is as gentle as that of the silken thread that binds a wreath of flowers."

DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby unanimously make this Declaration of Purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry:

General Objects.

1. United by the strong and faithful tie of agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our order, our country, and mankind.

2. We heartily endorse the motto: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

Specific Objects.

3. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects:

To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits. To foster mutual understanding and coöperation. To maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other in labor, to hasten the good time coming. To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate. To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining. To diversify our crops, and to crop no more than we can cultivate. To condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel and more on hoof and in fleece; less in lint, and more in warp and woof. To systematize our work, and calculate intelligently on probabilities. To discountenance the credit system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy.

We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together, and, in general, acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require. We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the Grange. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good will, vital brotherhood among ourselves, and to make our order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry, all selfish ambition. Faithful adherance to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social, and material advancement.

Business Relations.

4. For our business interests, we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers, into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence, we must dispense with a surplus of middlemen, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits.

We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests whatever. On the contrary, all our acts and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, that their interests are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually advantageous, keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action, that "individual happiness depends upon general prosperity."

We shall, therefore, advocate for every State the increase, in every practicable way, of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the seaboard, or between home producers and consumers, all the productions of our country. We adopt it as our fixed purpose to "open out the channels in nature's great arteries, that the life-blood of commerce may flow freely."

We are not enemies of railroads, navigable and irrigating canals, nor of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes.

In our noble order there is no communism, no agrarianism.

We are opposed to such spirit and management of any coporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits. We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by an enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest, and exorbitent per cent. profits in trade. They greatly increase our burdens, and do not bear proper proportion to the profits of producers. We desire only self-protection, and the protection of every true interest of our land, by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade, and legitimate profits.

Education.

We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves, and for our children, by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that practical agriculture, domestic science, and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their courses of study.

The Grange not Partisan.

5. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange—National, State, or Subordinate—is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss political or religious questions, or call political conventions, or nominate candidates, or even discuss their merits in its meetings.

Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and, if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country. For we seek the greatest good to the greatest number.

We must always bear in mind that no one by becoming a Patron of Husbandry gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country.

On the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power legitimately to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption and trickery; to see that none but competent, faithful and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions of trust; and to have carried out the principle which should characterize every Patron that "the office should seek the man, and not the man the office."

We acknowledge the broad principle that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that "progress toward truth is made by differences of opinion," while "the fault lies in bitterness of controversy."

We desire a proper equality, equity and fairness; protection for the weak; restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed burdens and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy of the sons and daughters of an American republic.

We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and of right should be, dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future. In our agricultural brotherhood and its purposes we shall recognize no North, no South, no East, no West.

It is reserved by every Patron, as the right of a freeman, to affiiliate with any party that will best carry out his principles.

Outside Coöperation.

6. Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution, we cannot admit all to our ranks.

Many are excluded by the nature of our organization, not because they are professional men, or artisans, or laborers, but because they have not a sufficient direct interest in tilling the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes. But we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial coöperation to assist in our efforts toward reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption.

We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromises, and earnest co-operation, as an omen of our future success.

Conclusion.

7. It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman, as is indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our Order.

Imploring the continued assistance of our Divine Master to guide us in our work, we here pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time, to return by our united efforts to the wisdom, justice, fraternity and political purity of our forefathers.

These, then, are the declared "purposes," the aims and objects of this farmers' organization. Each and every one of these various purposes have been and are being put into practice.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

Besides the foregoing principal organizations which claim the attention of the people of the State, there are other local labor organizations in the various towns of the State, such as the Typographical Unions at Raleigh, Wilmington and Charlotte, which have for their objects to maintain a fair rate of wages, help each other to get work, encourage good workmanship and to elevate printers generally. To do this they establish a scale of prices for their work, also a law for apprentices, allowing one for every three journeymen. Apprentices are generally required to labor at the trade four years before they are admitted to membership. There are other rules established by printers which have for their end the social and financial advancement of their members. These three Unions being the only three in the State among printers have had a long and successful career and have commended themselves to those acquainted with their methods.

In addition to the Typographical Unions mentioned, there are various other associations of mechanics at different places in the State, such as the Book Binders, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Bricklayers Unions and Junior Order of Mechanics, etc., which have for their object the improvement of their members mentally, socially and financially, and which have honorable records in that direction.

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